The Bombay Gazette. WITH SUPPLEMENT.

No. 7,130.—New Series. BOMBAY :—MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 1869. Annual Subscription in Advance.....Rupees Fifty-two.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

TERM OF SUBSCRIPTION.

For year in advance delivered in Town	Rs. 52 0
——— including postage	„ 72 0
For half year in advance, delivered in Town	„ 28 0
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Ten lines and under	
First insertion	Rs. 5 0
Second Ditto	„ 2 8
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line, but no Advertisement counted as less than eight lines.

LONG ADVERTISEMENTS.

First insertion ..... 7 As. per line.
Second Ditto ..... „ „
Third and succeeding 2 „ „
In the Native languages, double the above.

Domestic Occurrences. Each—Rupee 1.

SHIPPING.

OVERLAND FREIGHT ROUTE.

STEAM TO LIVERPOOL, LONDON, TRIESTE, MARSEILLES, BRINDISI, VENICE, GENOA, BARCELONA, HAVRE, ADEN, AND SUEZ.

THE Bombay and Bengal Steam Ship Company (Limited), under arrangements with other first class lines of Steamers from Alexandria, undertake to give through Bills of Lading for Goods via Egypt to the above and most other Continental Ports.

A limited number of Passengers can be accommodated.

Rates of Fare.

To Suez—1st Class £45, 2nd Class £25. } Exclusive of
To Trieste—1st Class £64 10s., 2nd class £37 5s. } Wines.

Steamers will leave Bombay on the 10th and 25th of each month; returning they will leave Suez on or about the 1st and 15th.

For Freight or Passage apply to Messrs. Stephen, Kennard & Co., London; Messrs. Tod, Kennard & Co., Liverpool; Messrs. Tod, Rathborne & Co., Alexandria; Austrian Lloyd's Steam Navigation Company, Trieste and Venice; and Messrs. Fraissinet Pere it Fils, Marseilles; or to the undersigned in Bombay.

The Steam-ship "Magdala," 2,220 Tons, Captain E. P. H. Thompson, will be despatched on the 25th January.

STEARNS, HOBART, & Co.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.—A Meeting of the Subscribers to the Goozerat Relief Fund will be held on Wednesday the 20th instant, at 3 o'clock P.M., at the Office of the Chamber of Commerce, in Graham's Buildings, to consider a proposal to appropriate the balance of the Fund to the relief of the people now suffering from famine in various parts of India.

Bombay, 16th January 1869.

NOTICE.—A quantity of Clothing, returned from Abyssinia, and certain Dead Stock, will be sold at the Commissariat Depot, Colaba, near the Causeway, at 1 P.M., on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 18th, 19th, and 20th instant.

Terms—Cash, and the lots to be removed forthwith.

L. M. DAVIES, Major,
Deputy Assistant Commissary General.

Bombay, 15th January 1869.

NOTICE.—Consignees of Cargo per "Robinson Crusoe," Vinnis, Master, from London, are requested to send off boats alongside the ship to receive delivery of their goods, otherwise the same will be landed by the Captain as they come to hand at the expense and risk of the concerned.

Captain Vinnis will not be responsible for the condition of any package after it leaves the ship's deck.

FINLAY, SCOTT, & Co.,
Agents ship "Robinson Crusoe."

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The Auction Sale at "Locksley Hall," Byculla, of the extensive valuable and splendid Household Furniture, &c., commences this day at 1 P.M. precisely.

The Carriages and Harness will be sold at 2 P.M. precisely. The same is worthy the inspection of those who are on the look out of first-rate Carriages and good Harness.

BYRAMJEE FRAMJEE & Co.

THE JUSTICES of the PEACE for the CITY of BOMBAY.—I hereby give notice, that a Special General Meeting of the Justices of the Peace for the City of Bombay will be held in the Town Hall on Monday, the 25th day of January, instant, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon precisely, for the transaction of the following business :—

1. To consider the report of the Select Committee on the Bombay Municipal Loan Bill.

2. Supplemental Budget of the Municipal Commissioner, with Finance Committee's Proceedings thereon.

3. To consider Government Resolution No. 4 C. W.—12 of 1869, dated 12th January 1869, relative to the appointment of a Commission asked for by the Bench in their Resolution of the 4th instant, to scrutinize and report on the schemes for Drainage and Increased Water Supply now before the public.

4. The Chairman will move that six months' additional leave be granted to Dr. Hewlett, Executive Health Officer of the Municipality for three months on his present absence, allowance, and for the remaining three months on such allowance as the Bench may sanction.

C. E. STANGER LEATHES,
Clerk to the Justices of the Peace for the City of Bombay.

Bombay, Town Hall, 16th January 1869.

NOTICE is hereby given that Babool Ramchunder, Pandoorung Rumchunder, and Crustnarao Ramchunder Butjee, of Bombay, have contracted to sell to Mr. Nana Gopinath, of Bombay, all that piece or parcel of ground, together with the messuage, tenement, or dwelling-house standing thereon, which has descended to them as the heirs of their late father, lying and being on or towards the eastern side of the Breach Candy Road, in the City of Bombay, containing by admeasurement 110 square yards or thereabouts, assessed in the books of the Collector of Land Revenue under No. 6, and in the books of the Municipality under No. 466, and standing in the name of the deceased, and bounded as follows :—that is to say, on or towards the east by the Fazundaro Oart of Trimchundra Wittoje, on or towards the west by the Breach Candy Road, on or towards the north by [illegible] and on or towards the south by [illegible] and that the said Baboo Ramchunder, Pandoorung Rumchunder, and Crustnarao Ramchunder Butjee, or some or one of them, have not made or done any act, deed, matter, or thing whereby or by means whereof the said piece or parcel of ground, messuage, tenement, or dwelling-house standing thereon, or any part thereof, is, are, or may be in any wise charged, affected, or incumbered in title, estate, or otherwise howsoever, and that they, or some or one of them, have full power to convey the same unto the said Nana Gopinath, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, free from all claim or demand on the said property, by way of inheritance, mortgage, or otherwise, he, they, or she shall make the same known to any one, the purchaser, in writing, at the Office of Messrs. W. Nicol & Co., in the Elphinstone Circle, within 14 fourteen days from the date hereof. In default the purchase shall be completed without regard to any such claim or claims.

NANA GOPINATH.

Bombay, 15th January 1869.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.—Tenders will be received for lighting certain Streets in the Town with Kerosine Oil.

The lights to be kept burning from a quarter of an hour before Sunset till three quarters of an hour before Sunrise, every night, except on Moonlight nights.

The tenders should be at a monthly rate per light, which rate should include lighting, extinguishing, cleaning, and maintenance.

Sample lamps for the purpose of trial may be obtained at the office of the undersigned.

The names of the streets proposed to be lighted, and the number of lights in each Street, and any other information relating to this contract, may be procured at the Office of the Executive Engineer, Municipality.

Tenders are to be made on printed form, which can be had on application to this office.

Tenders should be sent in to the Municipal Commissioner by the 31st instant.

The Municipal Commissioner does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay,
RUSSEL AITKEN,
Executive Engineer, Municipality.

Bombay, Executive Engineer's Office, Apollo House, 8th January 1869.

MUNICIPALITY of BOMBAY.—NOTICE to CONTRACTORS.—With reference to the Advertisement for lighting certain Streets in the Town with Kerosine Oil, dated the 8th January 1869, it is hereby announced that the time for sending in Tenders has been extended from the 20th up to the 31st January 1869; and that sample lamps for the purpose of trial may be obtained at the office of the undersigned.

By order of the Municipal Commissioner,
C. THWAITES, Engineer in Charge,
Executive Engineer.

Executive Engineer's Office, Apollo Street, Fort, 16th January 1869.

In the matter of Act XXVIII. of 1865 of the Legislative Council of India, and in the matter of the Estate of Jewraz Ruttonsey & Co.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a Final Dividend at the rate of 1 64/100 per cent. will be paid to all the Creditor on the above Estate, on the amount of their admitted claims, on and after Monday the 18th instant.

JAMES RANKEN,
DORABJEE F RAMJEE PANDAY, } Trustees.

Bombay, 15th January 1869.

IN the HIGH COURT of JUDICATURE at BOMBAY.

In the matter of Act XXVIII. of 1865 of the Legislative Council of India, and in the matter of Dossabhoy Kirpal, who lately carried on business in his own name, and also in partnership with Jaitha Laljee under the name or style of Dossabhoy Kirpal and Company, and also with Sudamund Balcrishna and Company, and also with Canjee Lladhur under the name or style of Canjee Lladhur and Company.

Dossabhoy Kirpal, an Insolvent Trader—Petitioner.

Upon hearing Mr. Peile, Attorney for the abovenamed Petitioner, and upon reading the Petition of the abovenamed Petitioner, and the affidavit of Krishnarao Vinayek, solemnly affirmed on the Fifteenth Day of January, instant, and the Prothonotary's Certificate, thereunto annexed and marked with the letter C, I do order that the Petitioner, Dossabhoy Kirpall, trading as aforesaid, be discharged under the provisions of Sections 23 and 24 of Act 28 of 1865 of the Legislative Council of India, from all liabilities in respect of the said Estate.—Dated this 15th day of January 1869.

C. SARGENT.

HEARN, CLEVELAND, and PEILE,
Petitioner's Attorneys.

PEAR TREE WOOD RAILWAY CURVES, by Stanley, the set consisting of 50 complete in box...Rs. 25.

Rampart Row. THACKER, VINING, & Co.

ALLEN'S MAP of INDIA, 1868, showing the British Territories, sub-divided into Collectorates, and including the Tenasserim Provinces, with the position and boundary of each Native State; executed by order of the Government of India, by John Walker. Size 5 ft. 8 ins. square.

Price on Rollers, mounted and varnished...Rs. 45 0
Mounted and folded, in case..... 39 8

Rampart Row. THACKER, VINING, & Co.

LETTS' DIARIES, 1869.—The following Numbers may still be procured :—

No.	8	Octavo 1 day in a page faint lines	Rs. 4 0
„	8	„ „ ruled for account	4 0
„	8	„ „ with lock and key	7 0
„	9	2 days in a page	3 0
„	9	„ „ with lock	6 4
„	10	3 days in a page	3 0
„	11	„ „ no Sundays	2 8
„	11 B	Dr. and Cr. 3 days in opening	3 12
„	13 Feap	8vo. 3 days in a page	1 12

Rampart Row. THACKER, VINING, & Co.

SECOND-HAND SURVEYING INSTRUMENTS.—The following have been left with the undersigned on Commission Sale :—

1	6 inch Transit Theodolite, by Elliott	Rs. 315
1	6 inch Plain do., by Elliott	„ 200
1	6 inch „ do., by Stanley, complete with solid leather cover. This instrument is in every way equal to new	„ 420
1	6 inch "Everest" Theodolite, by Elliott	„ 350
1	14 inch Dumpy Level, by Elliott	„ 100
1	15 inch "Y" Level, by Spencer	„ 120
1	Pocket Sextant, by C. W. Finch	„ 35
1	Prismatic Compass, by C. W. Finch	„ 20
1	Optical Square, by C. W. Finch	„ 11

Rampart Row. THACKER, VINING, & Co.

MATHEMATICAL DRAWING INSTRUMENTS.

Entirely new arrivals.

Rosewood Electrum-bound Tray Case, containing a full set of best Electrum double-pointed needle-pointed instruments, by Elliott ..... Rs. 185

Rosewood Electrum-bound Tray Case, containing a full set, minus proportional Compasses, of best Electrum double-pointed needle-pointed instruments, by Elliott ... „ 135

Rosewood Electrum-bound Tray Case, containing best Electrum double-jointed instruments, by Elliott ..... „ 115

Mahogany Tray Cases, containing best Electrum instruments, by Elliott ..... Rs. 50 and „ 65

Sets of Instruments by other makers, of excellent quality, ranging in price from ..... Rs. 5 upwards.

Rampart Row. THACKER, VINING, & Co.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

TENDERS will be received by the Superintendent of Marine up to 1 P.M., on Thursday next, the 21st inst., for the conveyance hence to the Andamans of about Eighty Native Convicts, with two Native Warders, and the proportionate Military Guard, and one Subordinate Medical Officer, for which latter Officer a Cabin Passage and first-class Rations must be provided.

Fifty days' provisions, water, firewood, &c., for the whole of the above party, and fittings for convicts, only are to be supplied by the Owners, Agents, or Masters of the Vessels, the provisions put on board being subject after shipment to the inspection of and to rejection by the Executive Commissariat Officer at the Presidency.

The Medicines will be provided by the Medical Department, the cost of which is to be borne by the Owners, Agents or Masters of the Vessel.

Any surplus of Provisions, &c., that may remain on board at the end of the voyage may be handed over to the authorities at Port Blair, and the cost of the same, at the rate at which they were purchased, will be repaid by Government to the Owners, Agents, or Masters of the Vessel in Bombay, on receipt from the authorities at Port Blair of a list of the articles made over to them.

For any inferior issue of Provisions during the voyage, the Owner, Agent, or Master of the Transport shall pay to Government double the price of the articles (as passed by Survey Committee) which would have otherwise been consumed, the payment to be made before receiving the final medium of the passage money.

The words "Tender for Convicts" should be superscribed on the covers of Tenders.

The Agents of Vessels tendering should distinctly state the exact date on which the Vessels will be ready for final survey.

The Superintendent of Marine reserves to himself the right of declining any Tender without assigning cause for so doing.

By order of the Superintendent of Marine,
GEORGE INGLE, Secretary.

Superintendent's Office, Bombay, 16th January 1869.

CHESSON and WOODHALL'S LIBRARY.

No. 10, Hummum Street, Bombay,
And No. 1, East Street, Poona.

PIANOFORTE MUSIC

No. BOOSEY'S MUSICAL CABINET.—12 annas each.

1.—20 Songs by Mendelssohn.
4, 25, 26, 27, 70, 71, 75, 88, 91, 93.—Christy's Minstrels' Songs.
9.—9 Original Pieces, by Joseph Ascher.
10.—10 Nocturnes and Mazurkas, by Talexy, Wely, Golia, and Cramer.
12.—15 Songs, by Beethoven.
13.—12 Popular Songs, by Hatton and G. Linley.
14.—20 Ballads, by Popular Composers.
15.—15 Songs, composed by a Gentleman.
16.—12 Vocal Duets, by Mendelssohn, Keller, and Kucken.
22.—16 Sacred Songs, by Handel.
23.—18 Standard English Songs for Gentlemen's voices, by Stone.
29.—16 Ditto for Ladies' voices, by Stone.
31.—10 Songs by Cellini from La Sonnambula.
36.—10 German Songs, with English words.
38.—20 Popular French Romances, with English words, by G. Linley.
42.—20 Welsh Melodies, by G. Linley.
43.—12 Songs, sung by Sims Reeves.
44.—15 Songs, sung by Madame Sainton Dolby.
45.—8 Songs, sung by Miss Louisa Pyne, in Dinorah, Satanella, and Bianca.
46 to 59.—Beethoven's Sonatas, edited by W. Dorrell.
60.—Verdi's New Opera Un Ballo in Maschera.
61.—12 Songs, by G. Cozzens, rural postman, Sidiford Devon.
62.—H. Glover's new Opera Ruy Blas, by E. Nordman.
64.—25 Comic Songs.
72.—20 Sacred Compositions, by Mozart, Handel, Haydn, &c.
73.—3rd selection of Standard English Songs, by Stone.
74.—14 Sacred Songs by various authors.
76.—13 Celebrated Arias, Ballads, Bravuras, by Sir H. R. Bishop.
77.—18 Songs and Ballads, by Claribel, C. Gabriel, Dolore, &c.
80.—12 Short Pieces, by S. Heller.
82.—12 European National Anthems and Songs, arranged by Beyer.
83.—13 Vocal Duets with English Words.
86.—8 Pieces, by Mendelssohn.
89.—20 Of Moore's Irish Melodies.
90.—20 Popular Songs of Scotland.
94.—20 Celebrated English Songs.
95.—16 Old Songs of Ireland, with original words.
95.—17 Ditto ditto.
97.—17 Ditto ditto.
98.—26 Baritone and Bass Songs, sung by Santley, Thomas, and Weiss.
102.—Boosey's Christmas Annual of new Music, by Claribel, &c.
106.—Offenbach's Opera The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein.
107.—Bellini's Opera Norma.
108.—Flotow's Opera Martha.
109.—Rossini's Opera Il Barbiere di Seviglia.
110.—Beethoven's Opera Fidelio.
112.—Mozart's Opera Don Juan.
113.—Characteristic Pieces, by young performers, by Schumann.
114.—45 Original Waltzes, by Beethoven.
115.—Meyerbeer's Opera Robert le Diable.

HANOVER SQUARE.—12 annas each.

Nos. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14—June and December 1868.

EXETER HALL.—12 annas each.

Nos. 7, 9, 10, and 11, for August, October, November, and December, 1868.

CHAPPELL'S MUSICAL MAGAZINE.—12 annas each.

No. 56.—12 Popular Songs, by Santley.
63.—9 Fantasias, by H. Richards.
65.—Recollections of Handel.
66.—12 Songs, by Bishop and Balfe.
67.—Offenbach's Comic Opera La Belle Helene.
70.—10 Popular Songs, by C. Gounod.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Boosey's Household Music, Part 9—4 Waltzes	Rs.	0 8
Ditto Part 10—4 Waltzes	„	0 8
Twelve Songs for our little friends. Music by Mrs. Barker	„	0 12
Boosey's Ball Room Guide, 2nd ed.	„	0 12
Czerny's Etude Velocite, 30 Exercises	„	8 0
Hamilton's Pianoforte Instructor	„	3 0
Henry Farmer's ditto	„	3 0
Cruvelli's Singing Method	„	10 0
Boosey's 5 Books of Standard English Glees	„	1 14

ORATORIOS.

The Messiah. By Handel		0 12
The Creation. By Haydn		0 12
Acis and Galatea. By Handel	(Bound Rs. 1-14)	0 12
Requiem Mass. By Mozart	(Ditto)	0 12
Mass in C. By Beethoven	(Ditto)	0 12
Imperial or Third Mass in D. By Haydn	(Ditto)	0 12
Messe Solennelle (St. Cecila). By Gounod	(Ditto)	0 12
The Dettingen "Te Deum." By Handel	(Ditto)	1 14
The Twelfth Mass in G. By Mozart	(Ditto)	1 14
Stabat Mater. By Rossini	(Ditto)	1 14
Judas Maccabeous. By Handel	(Ditto)	1 14

Bombay, 16th January 1869. CHESSON & WOODHALL.

BEDFORD and COMPANY, from HUDSON and SONS, PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS, LONDON.

Messrs. BEDFORD & Co. beg most respectfully to inform the Nobility, Gentry, and Inhabitants of Bombay and the Mofussil that they have RE-OPENED the PREMISES at 22, Rampart Row, lately occupied by the well-known Firm of ROGERS & Co., where they intend to carry on business as PHARMACEUTICAL, DISPENSING, and FAMILY CHEMISTS.

The Shop has been entirely refitted, and the greatest care taken in selecting Drugs and Chemicals of the very best quality.

Mr. Bedford, the Manager, hopes, by strict attention to business, to obtain the confidence and patronage of the Public. He has had much practical experience as an Assistant in some of the leading Establishments in London, and has subsequently endeavoured, by a course of study at the College of Pharmacy, Bloomsbury Square, London, to obtain a thorough knowledge of his business.

All PRESCRIPTIONS and FAMILY RECIPES will be dispensed under the most scrupulous attention of the Manager, and no Chemical will be used but that manufactured according to the most select and approved formula given in the Pharmacopœia of the different Colleges, and all Drugs compounded at this Establishment will be found to possess those essential properties upon which their active principles depend.

THOMPSON and COMPANY, CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS, Opposite the Secretariate, 22, APOLLO STREET, BOMBAY, From the late firm of ROGERS & Co.

PRESCRIPTIONS.

Every care and attention is given to this Department of our business, and being under our personal superintendence, Physicians and Patients may rely on all articles being supplied of the best quality, and prepared with exactness and uniformity.

MEDICINE CHESTS IN GREAT VARIETY.

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS CAREFULLY RE FILLED.

Messrs. Thompson & Co. devote particular attention to Ships' Medicine Chests, and will, at any time, send on Board a competent party to have the Chest examined, free of charge.

PATENT MEDICINES.

Hair Brushes.	Flesh Gloves.
Nail Brushes.	Chest Expanders.
Tooth Brushes.	Eau de Cologne.
Combs.	Violet Powder.
Corn Plasters.	Feeding Bottles.
Perfumery.	Court Plaster.
Sponges.	Filters.
Sponge Bags.	

AND A LARGE STOCK OF OTHER SUNDRIES.

PIPES, TOBACCO, CHEROOTS.

Orders from Outstations, accompanied by a Bombay reference, will receive every care and attention.

THOMPSON & Co.

P. GRANT and SON, SADDLERS and HARNESS MAKERS. No. 1 Meadow Street, Fort, Bombay.

GEO. NICOLL and COMPANY, (No. 24, Meadow Street, Bombay.) 1, East Street, Poona,

Have much pleasure in announcing to their numerous Customers and the Public, that they have just received Overland a large supply of Boots, Shoes, and Slippers, a few of which are enumerated below :—

LADIES' BOOTS, SHOES, AND SLIPPERS.

White Satin, Kid, Marsala, and Jean Boots.
Bronze, Sevagion, and Plain. do. do.
Black Satin do. do.
„ Kid, Hessian, Bootees, Croquet, Walking, Plain, and House Boots.
„ Brown and Grey Cashmere Boots.
To fasten over Instep with Elastic Bands (French).
White Satin and Jean Shoes.
Slippers Red, Black, Blue, and Bronze.

GENTLEMEN'S BOOTS, SHOES, AND SLIPPERS.

French Glove Kid (Emperor's)	Boots	
All Patent „	do.	Dress.
Do. „ (with spur boxes)	do.	
Kid top Patent Calf Golosh	do.	
Memel top French Calf Golosh	do.	
Calf Croquet	do.	
Enamelled Croquet	do.	
Do. Imitation Balmorals	do.	
Do. Plain	do.	Walking.
Morocco top Morocco Golosh	do.	
Kid do. do.	do.	
Brown Morocco (Chelsea)	do.	
Do. Calf Golosh	do.	
Canvas	do.	Riding.

Enamelled and Brown Napoleon do.
Shoes in the above materials, Elastic side and to Lace.
Slippers in Leopard and Hairy Calfskins, Morocco, Patent, Plush, and Enamelled Leather.
CHILDREN'S BOOTS AND SHOES in great variety.

SUNDRIES.

A few Sets of very superior Single and Double Harness, Riding Saddles and Bridles, Double and Single Reins, Driving Riding and Hunting Whips, Rug and Luggage Straps, a choice selection of Walking Sticks, Alpaca Umbrellas, Gent's Brown and Patent Waist Belts, Courier and Officers' Bags of sizes, Leather Alberts, Purses in great variety, Writing Desks of various sizes, Ladies' Doeskin Gauntlets, Military Undress, Irregular Cavalry and Hunting Spurs of every description, Sponges, Chamois Skins, Carriage Rugs in various colors, Solid Leather Portmanteaus of sizes, Jamieson and Harris's Harness Composition, India Rubber Racket Shoe Soles, Black and Yellow Enamelled Hide, Grained Hide, and Waterproof Canvas Gaiters (Thigh and Knee), Patent Varnish, Kid Reviver, Blacking and Shoe Brushes, Trowser and Spur Chains, and Steel Burnishers.

PRICE LISTS, containing directions for self-measurement post free on application.

Bombay, 15th December, 1868.

WINES, SPIRITS, BEER, &c.

PAYNE and COMPANY. (BOMBAY BRANCH.)

BOMBAY.

WINE MERCHANTS & REGIMENTAL AGENTS.

Offices and Sample Room—Elphinstone Circle. (Immediately opposite the Custom House.)

GODOWNS—MARINE STREET.

ESTABLISHED IN CALCUTTA UPWARDS OF HALF A CENTURY.

Places of Business and Agencies.

Calcutta	Belatee Bungalow.
London	George Street, Mansion House.
Paris	Rue de Bonde.
Wine Districts	Coblentz.
	Moselle.
	Frankfort O. M.
	Epernay.
	Rheims.
	Bordeaux.
	Cognac.
China	Hongkong.
	Shanghai.
Manilla	Strada Philipinas.

GUARANTEE.—We wish it to be distinctly understood that in all instances we guarantee the quality and purity of our Wines and Spirits, and that we engage to take back or exchange, any that may not be approved.

QUOTATIONS.—Our quotations for Sparkling Wines are for good delivery from our Godowns, our calculations being based to guarantee the full complement of sound bottles in each case; the risk of breakage and ullage is thereby avoided by the consumer.

DELIVERIES.—Our deliveries will be in quantities of not less than 1 doz., excepting Liquors, which can be had in any quantity, sample bottles may be had and will be charged for; parcels of 6 dozens and upwards there will be no charge made for the same.

OUR LONDON & BORDEAUX HOUSES.—Those of our friends desiring to indent direct on our London and Bordeaux houses can be supplied at home quotations.

CASH DEPARTMENT.—We would direct special attention to our cash quotations which we have found so successful in Calcutta, whereby our friends derive all the advantages of a cash transaction, by obtaining their Wines at the very lowest remunerative prices. All orders to the Cash Department should be accompanied by a Remittance, in the absence of which they will be transferred to the Credit Department for execution at credit rates.

ADULTERATIONS.—We take the liberty of mentioning that there is a vast quantity of adulterated Wines shipped to this country which are offered at somewhat lower prices than those at which we can afford to sell pure ones; still we are assured that good wines will stand their ground when fairly tested. Those parties, however, who vend "made up" wines act very injurious to the fair trader, and bring discredit on the merchant generally.

THE TRADE.—We shall be happy to supply the Trade on the most liberal terms. Our English quotations are especially directed to local and up-country dealers interested in the Wine Trade. Our stocks here are large and we shall at all times be prepared to supply any quantity at a short notice.

* The brands marked with an asterisk (*) are daily expected.

SHERRIES

The whole of our Sherries are imported by us direct from Xerex.

The following are the Brands we have always on hand;—

Credit.	Mark.	Seal.	Quality and Peculiarity.	Cash.
15 0	X		Sound ordinary Wine	Rs. 13 0
20 0	B		Red—A pale full flavoured Luncheon Wine	18 0
20 0	A		Red—Same quality as above, but much drier	18 0
26 0	C		Red—A pale rich flavoured Wine, fine aroma, particularly suitable as a Dinner Wine	22 0
27 0	1	White—Pale, delicate and nutty Wine, possessing great delicacy of flavour, and recommended as a good Dessert Wine		24 0
30 0	2	White—Old natural pale dry Wine extremely mellow and fine, and very dry, quite the Amontillado character		27 0
32 0	3	White—Ditto, ditto, very dry		29 0
33 0	4	White—Vine de Pasto—a Wine well known at all the best Westend Clubs in London as a choice, old, delicate, pale and dry Wine		30 0
32 0		Amontillado, very pale delicate flavour, very dry and full of aroma. We offer it to the connoisseur who can appreciate the characteristics of a fine Amontillado; very old		30 0
35 0		Manzanilla, a pale, old, and elegant Wine, very choice. We offer it to those who can appreciate the exceedingly delicate flavour and dryness peculiar to this Wine		32 0
		Brown and Golden Sherries of the same quality as those marked A, B, C, and 1 and 2, also in stock at the same rates		
*16 0		No. 1, Old Marsala, from one of the finest districts in Sicily. A nice Luncheon or Dinner Wine, very wholesome		14 0
		No. 2, Ditto, ditto. This is also the produce of one of the finest districts in Sicily, it has quite the character, having had [illegible]		16 8

We have just received a batch of this pure wine and recommend it strongly.

PORT.

Imported direct from Oporto, where our Reserves are held; they are the produce of the Upper Douro District.

*18 0	One Grape, full bodied fruity Wine	16 0
24 0	Two Grapes, a superb full flavoured Wine, very mellow, a good After-Dinner Wine	21 0
30 0	Three Grapes, a fine Invalid Port, it possesses a Burgundy flavour with a fine bouquet and good body	27 0
*32 0	White Port, the produce of the White Grape, it is delicate and mellow	28 0

CHAMPAGNE.

Our Reserves are held at Epernay, Rheims, and Avizes.

30 0	Cordon Blue—brand, anchor, Payne & Co., Epernay, a pure, light dry Wine, suitable for Tiffin, or Evening Parties, and will make a good cup	28 0
*30 0	Ditto, ditto, Copper Capsule, similar	28 0
*38 0	Creme de Bouzy— double anchor	34 0
39 0	Light Straw Wine, more body, and a rich flavour of the Epernay grape. A good wholesome Wine	35 0
*39 0	Grand Vin D'Ay—Payne & Co.'s Epernay, a Pale straw colored, good bouquet and very mellow and dry	35 0
41 0	Silver Neck with* (star)—a pale elegant Wine from the vineyards of Rheims—brand, Payne & Co., Rheims	38 0
41 0	Gold Neck, with* (star)—brand, Payne & Co., Rheims, same quality as above, but extra dry	38 0
*42 0	Gold Neck, No. 2, 1864 vintage, very luscious and dry, a good Dinner Wine	39 0
45 0	Gold Neck, with * * (double star)—brand, Payne & Co., Rheims. This Wine has been selected from one of the first Cuvee's of '65 vintage, and will be found very dry, full of aroma, and as a vintage Wine it is unequalled. It is the most delicate and fine Wine ever imported into this country		40 0
45 0	Silver Neck with * * (double star)—brand, Payne and Co., Rheims, same Cuvee as above, but not so dry		40 0

* Double Magnum.—In cases of 4 bottles equal to 16 ordinary quarts at Rs. 60 per case—Cash, good delivery.

* Single Magnum (double bottle).—In cases of 6 bottles, equal to 1 doz. quarts, at Rs. 42 per case, good delivery. Specially selected from a good Cuvee suitable for Clubs and Messes.

* Half-pints.—The size is well adapted for invalids, or for use on board the P. and O. Steamers.

Pints.—Most of the above Wines are to be had in Pints at a small advance on the cost of a case of 24 pints (equal to 1 doz. quarts).

N.B.—Our quotations to the Trade may be had on application.

SPARKLING MOSELLES.

The whole of our Hocks and Moselles are imported direct from our Agency at Coblentz, where we have a fine stock of first-class Wines.

Credit.		Cash.
34 0	Crown Brand, fine Sparkling, highly recommended	Rs. 32 0
37 0	Ditto—brand, Payne & Co., Coblentz	„ 34 0
42 0	Ditto Nonpareil, extra superior	„ 39 0

SPARKLING HOCKS

34 0	Crown Brand, fine Sparkling, highly recommended	Rs. 32 0
*45 0	Ehrenbreitstein, pale and elegant	„ 40 0

It will be observed that our quotations for Sparkling Wines are for good delivery from our Godowns.

STILL HOCKS.

Credit.		Cash.
20 0	Laubenheim Vintage 1862	Rs. 18 0
23 0	Rodenthal ditto 1862	„ 20 8
23 8	Geisenheim ditto 1862	„ 21 0
25 0	Ostrich, ditto 1862	„ 22 0
*29 0	Nierstein, ditto 1862	„ 26 0
*36 0	Schlachtberg ditto 1862	„ 32 0
24 0	Erbach ditto 1865	„ 21 0

Rudesheimer, Johnnisberger, and Steinberger, also in stock of select vintages. Rs. 28, 34, and 36 respectively, cash.

CLARETS.

Our Clarets reach us direct from our Bordeaux houses where we have always a reserve of two or three hundred Hogsheads of Good Vintage Wines.

Credit.		Cash.
13 0	Good Bordeaux	Rs. 12 0
15 0	Payne's Medoc	„ 13 0
15 0	Breakfast Claret	„ 13 0
17 0	Saint Julien	„ 15 0
17 0	Batailley	„ 18 0
*20 0	Beycheville	„ 18 0
*34 0	Chateau Lafite	„ 28 0
*32 0	Chateau La Rose	„ 20 0
*30 0	Chateau Latour	„ 26 0
*34 0	Chateau Margaux	„ 28 0

BRANDY.

We have always a reserve of two hundred and fifty to three hundred Hogsheads of Brandy in bond in the London Vaults, which are allowed to mature before bottling. This enables us to keep up the quality and character of our own brands.

Credit.		Cash.
*24 0	Brandy, Gold, good ordinary	Rs. 21 0
29 0	Ditto, ditto Vine Leaf	„ 27 0
32 0	+Green Vine Leaf Brandy	„ 29 0
34 0	Brandy, old (2 stars)	„ 30 0
*40 0	Ditto, Liqueur	„ 36 0
	*Ditto, Exshaw's, No. 1	
	*Preston's Brandy	

We recommend the Green Vine Leaf as a moderately priced and fine Brandy, Rs. 29—Cash.

SPIRITS, LIQUORS, &c.

Credit.		Cash.
22 0	Jamaica, Old Pineapple	Rs. 20 0
*20 0	Old Tom, or Cordial Gin	„ 18 0
*22 0	Genuine Hollands Gin	„ 20 0
*20 0	Whiskey, Glenlivat, Highland	„ 18 0
*22 0	Whiskey Irish LL	„ 20 0
20 0	Orange Bitters	„ 17 0
21 0	Ditto, ditto, superior	„ 18 0
20 0	Ginger Wine	„ 17 0
20 0	Cherry Brandy	„ 16 0
*21 0	Ginger Brandy	„ 18 0
*21 0	Milk Punch	„ 18 0

DUTCH LIQUEURS.

40 0	Curaçoa Noyeau, &c	„ 35 0
40 0	Maraschino de Zara	„ 37 0

FRENCH LIQUEURS.

32 0	Noyeau, Parfait Amour, Curaçoa, Vanille, Chartreuse, Jamul Rose, Raspail ..... per doz. assorted	Rs. 28 0

N.B.—Our quotations for Madeira, Bucellas, Syracuse, Still Moselle, Sauterne, and Wines in Wood will appear in a future issue.

WINES, SPIRITS, BEER, &c.

PAYNE and COMPANY. (BOMBAY BRANCH.)

The Wines marked with an Asterisk (*) in our Advertisement are daily expected. Further shipments of a general assortment of Wines, including Wines in Pipes, Hogsheads, and Quarter Casks, Double Magnums and Single Magnums of Champagne, &c., have been advised as under :—

"Prince Oscar."	"City of Madras."
"Khorasan."	"Cyclone."
"Merwanjee Framjee."	"Melrose."
"Benvohlich."	"Dilhrun."
"Robinson Crusoe."	"Ferdinand Minnie."
"British Monarch."	

N.B.—As the shipments come forward they will be duly announced.

Those of our friends desiring to indent direct on our London and Bordeaux houses can be supplied on the following Terms :—

Prices on board export ship, free of all charges.

SHERRY—24s. 34s. 45s. 52s. and 56s. ..... per doz.
PORT—34s. 36s. and 40s. ..... „
CHAMPAGNE—36s. 42s. 48s. and 62s. ..... „
Ditto Magnums 100s. and 110s. ..... „
SPARKLING MOSELLE & HOCKS—40s. 42s. and 45s. ..... „
STILL HOCKS & MOSELLE—20s. 24s

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

BOMBAY BILL AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

Subscribed Capital.	Nomi Value of sh.	Paid up.	Last dividend.	Names.	Rate per Share.
	Rs.	Rs.	p. a.		
1,000,000	100	all	5 p.ct.	Agra Bank	126
3,140,000	1,000	all	9 p.ct.	Bank of Bengal	1750
5,000,000	500	all	5 do.	Ditto of Bombay New	560
9,750,000	1,000	all	11½ pc	Ditto of Madras	1650
800,000	200	all	3 p. c.	Chartered Bank of India A. & China	200
700,000	250	all	6 do.	Chartered Bk. of L. & C.	280
1,000,000	500	250	8 do.	Delhi and London	290
1,000,000	250	125	8 do.	National Bank of India	136
800,000	250	all	12 do.	Oriental Bank	460

LAND COMPANIES.

4,180,000	3,000	all	Rs. 80	Colaba Land Company	1330
1,000,000	1,000	all	Rs. 30	Elphinstone Land	820 to 825
1,080,000	1,000	500	„11-14	Do. New	350
...	1,000	1,000	Nil	Frere Land	105
400,000	5,000	4,100	Nil	Mazagon Land	750 to 755
...	2,000	1,300	Nil	Port Canning	270

SHIPPING COMPANIES.

500,000	5,000	3,500	600	Bombay Ship Co.	1450
260,000	2,500	all	300	Bombay Coast	260

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

...	£20	218.3.0	5 p. c.	G. I. P. Railway Consolidated Stock	227
...	£20	196.8.8	do.	Do. New £20 shares	196
...	£100	1,000	do.	B. B. & C. I. Railway Co.	1120
...	£18	196.5.1	do.	Do. New Shares	Par.

MISCELLANEOUS.

...	50	50	5	Mechanics' B'ld'gs Co.	30
...	2,000	300	12	Kurrachee Landing and Shipping Company	150
100,000	500	all	3 p. c.	Treacher & Co.	180

BANKS IN LIQUIDATION.

			Date of L'dation.		
1,015,000	500	500	Jan. '58	Bank of Bombay	108
800,000	200	32		Do. China	3
2,000,000	200	100	May '67	Do. Guzerat	90
1,000,000	250	150	Aug. '67	B'bay Pr'dez'y B'k	26
2,000,000	200	200	Sept. '67	„ Trdg & B'nkg	20
2,000,000	200	200	Sept. '67	Brokers' Bank	75
1,000,000	250	250	Mar. '66	Central Bank	9
500,000	500	200	Feb. '67	Indian Peninsula	19
...	100	200	May '67	Royal Bank	15
...	400	400	...	B'gal Cr'dit Mobilier	2
1,200,000	400	130	Apr. '67	Old Financial	5

COMPANIES IN LIQUIDATION.

...	2,000	1,000	...	Ap'loB'd Warehouse	10
1,000,000	...	5,200	Nov. '66	Back Bay Co.	400
...	...	3,500	...	B'bay & Bengal S. S.	300
2,000,000	...	4,100	...	Frere Reclamation	140
...	...	3,500	...	Iron Shipping	260
...	...	...	...	Victoria Spinning	2000

EXCHANGE.

On	Terms.	Rate.
London Banks	6 months' sight	1s. 11 13/16d. to 1s. 11¾d.
Do. Credits	6 Do.	do. 11 15/16d. to 2s. 0 1/16d.
Do. Documents	6 Do.	do. 2s. 0 3/16d. to 2s. 0¼d.
Calcutta	At sight	Par.
Do.	30 days' sight	99¼
Do.	60 Do.	do. 99
Madras	30 Do.	do. 99 Nominal.
China	60 Do.	do. 216 do.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Five-and-a-half per cent.	112½
Five per cent.	108½
Four per cent.	95
Five per cent. (Public Works Loan)	106
Five per cent. Debenture Loan 1866-67	103½
15 years' Debenture Loans	109
10 years' do. do.	108
5 years' do. do.	103½
Six per cent. Municipal Loan	98

BANK OF BOMBAY.

Government Securities	7 per cent.
Mercantile Bills	10 do.

PRICES OF BULLION, &c.

Sovereigns each	Rs.	10-8
Bank of England Notes	„	10-4
Spanish Dollars	„	225
Carolas	„	220
Mexican Dollars	„	210
German Crowns	„	223
Five-Franc Pieces	„	196-8
Bar Silver	„	15-1
Gold Leaf	„	16-8
Bar Gold 10 oz. English	„	

DAILY COTTON MARKET REPORT.

BOMBAY, 16TH JANUARY 1869.

OLD.	Per Candy.
Oomrawuttee	237 to 239
Akote	235 to 240
Broach	242 to 245
Dholleras	242 to 245
Bhowmuggur	215 to 230
Veeravul	235 to 238
Vingoria	255 to 256
Dharwar Sawginned	230 to 235
Khandeish	230 to 235
Barsee	

NEW.

Oomrawuttee	270 to 272
Hingunghat	280 to 282

Ready sales 1175 Candies. Market active.

CALCUTTA.—12TH JANUARY, 1869.

The prices of Government Securities continue unchanged, but the business to-day was not heavy. Only small amounts of 4 per cents. sold at quotations. Public Works 5 per cents., one lot of Rs. 18,000 obtained Rs. 4-10 premium, and another Rs. 5,000 was bought at Rs. 5-0 premium. In 5 per cents. of 1856-57, very little was done at Rs. 5-10 premium. Some 5½ per cents sold at Rs. 12-13 and 12-14 premium, and one purchase of about Rs. 30,000 was made at Rs. 15-0 premium.

6 per cent. Municipal Debentures changed hands at Rs. 6-4 premium.

A good number of National Bank shares were bought, for orders, at Rs. 140.

Landing and Shipping Co.'s shares sold at Rs. 57.

MILITARY.

ARRIVALS.—JANUARY 16.

Shoubridge, Lieutenant, Royal Engineers, on furlough, from Jhansie.
Peterkin, Lieutenant, 4th Regiment, on leave, from Poona.
Bell, Major, 3rd Hussars, on duty, from Nuggur.
Phillips, Veterinary Surgeon, 3rd Hussars, on duty, from Nuggur.
Simons, Lieutenant, 8th Bengal Infantry, on sick leave, from Matheran.
Maclachan, Major, Royal Horse Artillery, on leave, from Hyderabad.

DEPARTURES.—JANUARY 16.

Mackay, Assistant Surgeon, Royal Horse Artillery, to join, to Hyderabad, Scind.
Maclachlan, Major, Royal Horse Artillery, on leave, to Kirkee.

SHIPPING.

DAILY FREIGHT REPORT—16TH JANUARY.

London	Cotton	£2 7s. 6d. to £2 10	0d. per ton.
	Seeds	£1 10s. 0d.	Nominal. „
Liverpool	Cotton	£2 7s. 6d. to £2 10	8s. 0d. „
	Seeds	£1 5s. 0d.	„
Overland	Cotton	£5 10s. 0d.	p. 40 c. ft. Nominal.
China	Sailing vessel Cotton		
	Steamer do.	R 6 to 7	per bale.
	Opium	Rs 10 to 15	per chest.
Calcutta	Salt	Rs. 6	per ton.
Mauritius	Grain	12 annas	per bag.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
Jan. 16	Coromandel	Dow	Calcutta, Dec. 19.
	Mary Mildred	Hory	Hongkong, Dec. 6.
	British India	Teazer	London, Oct. 1.
	Regina	Brady	Mauritius, Nov. 26.
	Mysore	Nacoda	Cochin, Dec. 27.
	Pontiac	Finlay	Liverpool, Aug. 27.
	Hyacinth	Brown	Rangoon, Dec. 22.
	Mistress of the Seas	Mackenzie	Greenock, Sept. 15.
17	Phlox (s)	Baker	Goa, Jan. 15.
	Ellora (s)	Murray	Hongkong, Dec. 29.
	Sumatra (s)	White	Suez, Jan. 3.
	General Havelock (s)	Teasdale	Veravull, Jan. 16.
	A. R. Hydroos	Nacoda	Calicut, Dec. 31.
	Letchmy Persad	Nacoda	Cochin.
	Conlemere		Mauritius, Dec. 10
	Abyssinia (s)	Templeton	Calcutta, Dec. 29.
	City of Dublin	Scott	Clyde.
	Clara	Innes	Liverpool, Aug. 4.
	Lancashire Witch.		Liverpool, Sept. 8.
	Eumenides		Liverpool, Sept. 30.
	Arctic		Swoodin.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
Jan. 16	Fattay Rahamany	Nacoda	Calicut.
	Michael Angelo	Jones	Calcutta.
	L'Allegro	Cartner	Havre.
	Carnatic (s)	Coleman	Aden and Suez.
	Rinaldo	Burnup	Calcutta.

REPORTS BY TELEGRAPH.

BOMBAY, 16th, 9 P.M.—Mail steamer "Martaban" leaving for Lingah.

GALLE, 16th, 10 P.M.—French Mail steamer "Meinam" sailed for Calcutta.

GALLE, 17th, 1 A.M.—French Mail steamer "Imperatrice" sailed for Suez.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Jan. 11	Arabia (s)	Ballantine	Bombay, Dec. 22.	
	Centaur	Purcell	Mauritius, Nov. 10.	
	Feroze (s)	Arnot	Bombay.	
12	Tamby Candassamy	Derrien	Bombay, Dec. 10.	
	Nimrod	Gaskil	Muscat, Nov. 8.	
	Manfred	Scott	Colombo, Dec. 6.	

DEPARTURES

Jan. 11	Sevilla	...	...
	Centurion	...	...
12	Goldfinder	...	...
	Bona	...	...

MADRAS.

ARRIVAL.

Jan. 11	T. B. Ord	Husband	Calcutta.

DEPARTURES.

Jan. 11	Koina (s)	Collaver	Pooree, with Troops.
12	Ethiopia (s)	McCallum	Cuttack, with Troops Hd. Qr. 41st.
	James (s)	Richards	Rangoon.

TELEGRAPH LINE REPORTS.

KURRACHEE, 17th, 5 P.M.—Cable right to Fao, Turkish line right to Constantinople, Persian line right to Tabreez. Latest dates from Great Britain, via Turkey, 13th January, via Russia 14th January.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAMS.

The following are the dates of private telegrams received at the Bombay Telegraph Office during the 24 hours ending at 8 o'clock yesterday evening:—

From United Kingdom, via Turkey, 13th January.
From Continent of Europe, via Turkey, 10th January.

The time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay from 8 P.M. of the 16th to 8 P.M. of the 17th January, are as follows:—

To Bombay	Max.	Min.
From Kurrachee*	15 55	5 38
„ Calcutta via Agra	21 55	11 15
„ Madras	9 50	8 10

Communication between Bombay and Kurrachee perfect.

* Cause of high maximum in consequence of interruption. Now communication good.

WEATHER REPORTS.

TUTICORIN, 16th, 9 A.M.—Moderate, wind north, thermometer 80, weather fair.

GALLE, 17th, 9 A.M.—Weather calm and cloudy, thermometer 79.

PAUMBAN, 17th, 12 noon.—Wind north, weather fair, thermometer 83.

NOW READY.

THE INDIAN TRAVELLERS' GUIDE FOR JANUARY.

PRICE—EIGHT ANNAS.

CONTAINING the latest alterations in the time of running of the Trains on the various Lines of Railway, in addition to a large amount of interesting and useful information.

CONTENTS.

Map of India.
Index to Railway Stations.
Index to Places by Steamer and Dak.
Introduction.
Railway Time Tables:—
Great Indian Peninsula Railway.
Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway.
Jubbulpore Extension Railway.
Scinde Railway.
Punjaub Railway.
East Indian Railway.
Eastern Bengal Railway
Calcutta and South Eastern Railway
Great Southern of India Railway.
Indian Branch Railway.
Delhi Railway.
Madras Railway.
Steam Navigation Companies:—
P. & O. Co.
Bombay and Bengal S. S. Co.
Messageries Imperiales.
Austrian Lloyds.
Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company.
British India Steam Navigation Company.
Bombay Coast and River Steam Navigation Company.
China Steamers.
Indus Steam Flotilla.
Punjaub Steam Flotilla.
Irrawady Flotilla.
India General Steam Navigation Company
Dak Companies:—
Agra and Nassick Mail Carts.
Bombay and Central India Transit Agency.
North Western Dak Company.
Inland Transit Company.
Purneah and Darjeeling Transit Company.
David's Horse Carriage Dak.
Delhi and Umritsur Dak.
Punjaub and North Western Company.
Commercial Transport Association Company
Authorized rates of Carriage in the Punjaub.
Victoria Horse Dak.
Oudh Horse Dak Company.
Routes by Steamers.
Routes in the Bombay Presidency, &c.
Routes in the Central Provinces.
List of Travellers' Bungalows along the Trunk Roads of Western India.

May be had at all Railway Stations and of the following

AGENTS:

Bombay and Poona:—Messrs. Chesson and Woodhall.
Bombay:—Messrs. Thacker, Vining & Co.
Poona:—Messrs. Treacher & Co.
London:—Mr. G. Street, 30, Cornhill.

BOMBAY ASSEMBLIES.—Subscribers are informed that the next Assembly will take place at Mr. J. G. Smith's Bungalow, Malabar Hill, on Monday, the 18th instant.

H. J. STOCK, Lieutenant, Marine Lines. Honorary Secretary.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS ONE RUPEE, AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

BOMBAY.

BIRTH.

ELPS—January 7th, at Aden, the wife of Captain Arthur Elphs, of a son.

DEATH.

COOPER—January 16th, at his residence, Byculla Station, Mr. Robert Cooper, Station Master G. I. P. Railway, aged 28. Deeply regretted by a large circle of friends.

BENGAL.

BIRTHS.

MADGE—January 6th, at Rampore Bauleah, the wife of Walter C. Madge, Esq., Deputy Collector, &c., of a son.

WILSON—January 12th, at 72, Northern Circular Road, the wife of Mr. James Wilson, of the General Assembly's Institution, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

MUNRO—SMITH—January 7th, at St. Saviour's Church, Arrah, by the Rev. J. C. Thomson, Hector Bruce Munro, Esq., Bengal Police, to Mary, eldest daughter of the late Captain W. H. Smith, 61st N. I.

NORTH-WEST PROVINCES.

BIRTH.

BRIGGS—January 12th, at Allahabad, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. Briggs, of a son.

DEATH.

BROOKE—January 3rd, at Jeypore, of abscess in the liver, Emma Caroline, wife of Colonel J. C. Brooke, Officiating Political Agent, Marwar, aged 36.

NOTICE.

FROM Jan. 1, 1869, the London Agency of THE BOMBAY GAZETTE will be transferred to MR. GEORGE STREET, at whose Office, 30, Cornhill, a file of the daily issue can be seen and copies of the "Overland Summary" obtained on arrival of the Mail.

The Bombay Gazette

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 1869.

IF the rupture between Greece and Turkey have consequences no more serious than the abandonment of the intended journey of the Prince of Wales to Athens, all will rejoice. But, pending the issue of the Conference sitting in Paris, peace and war hang in the balance, and no one can say which scale will kick the beam. Though the latest telegraphic reports show that the diplomatists had not given up the cause of peace they do not intimate, in the least degree, how the quarrel will terminate. At the very outset one of those difficulties which have often frustrated the most well-intended efforts, arose to mar the apparent harmony. The Greek Government seems to have advanced, on behalf of its representative, a pretension to enter the Conference on a footing of equality with Turkey. In itself the pretension wears a reasonable aspect, but, looked at a little more closely, it is clearly inadmissible. England, France, Austria, Prussia, Russia are Great Powers, and of late years Turkey has been admitted to a similar rank. But Greece is not a Great Power, and the rank refused even to Spain, only a few years ago, cannot be accorded to Greece. The part played by "Sardinia," in 1856, might be pleaded as a precedent, but Count Cavour took his seat at the Conference table, not as the representative of one of the Great Powers, but as the agent of one of the belligerents. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Great Powers should have refused to admit pretensions which, if allowed in the case of Greece, would have put all the European Powers on the same level. The Greek representative, it seems, did not enter the Conference on the 12th, or the 13th. At that date he was without instructions, but had not protested against the decision touching his diplomatic rank. This contest may seem to be a trifle, but these are the forms which profound differences often assume; and they sometimes indicate a foregone intention to spin out the time, and render blows inevitable. During the sitting of the Conference the Powers have required Turkey and Greece, alike, to maintain the *status quo*—a condition in every way desirable, and one not likely to be refused.

The home journals, received yesterday, throw but little light on the question—Upon what Power or Powers does Greece depend for support? Yet in the answer to that question we might discern an answer to one more momentous—Will there be peace or war in Europe? It is, indeed, just possible that Greece and Turkey may be acting without prompters—the insults and injuries sustained by the Turks would quite account for a spontaneous and unprovoked resolve on their part; and in a fever-fit of patriotism, run away with by the "Grand Idea,"—Greece may have broken out into fierce resistance, regardless of any external stimulus. But the probabilities are that some Power or Powers have instigated and sustained the Greek Government against the better sense of a large portion of the Greek people. And it is worthy of remark that the Russian and Prussian journals accuse Austria of stirring the Turks up to the fighting pitch—Austria which has the least to gain in an Eastern quarrel! We are inclined to read the sentences another way, and to infer their meaning to be that Russia and Prussia, who have supported Greek intrigue up to the present time, have been taken aback by the unexpected energy of the Turks in bringing irritating questions, so long kept pending, to a decisive issue. There is good ground for the complaint that the Turkish policy of moderation had lapsed into timidity, and it would have been well had counsel, long ago put forward, recommending Turkey to act, on all occasions, on a moderate but resolute policy, prevailed in the Divan. Nor can we doubt that it would had not the rival exertions of the Great Powers perplexed the Councils and unnerved the will of the Sultan's Government. The remark of a French journal, that the Eastern Question is neither at Athens nor Constantinople, but in Paris, London, and St. Petersburg, though not new, is strikingly true; and will remain true until the end.

In the present aspect of the local quarrel the bulk of opinion in Western Europe is that the Greeks are wholly in the wrong, and that the action of the Turkish Government in taking up arms was perfectly justifiable. Greece had for years maintained an underhand warfare with Turkey, and Turkey had been restrained from action solely by the Great Powers. The object of Greece appears to have been to force the hands of the Great Powers, and she has no doubt been surprised by finding Turkey of the same mind. But whether a Conference will be able to settle the dispute and patch up a peace is, or we should rather say was, much doubted at home. The only chance lay in limiting the diplomatic debate to the questions actually raised by the Turks, for if once the Powers embarked on the broad Eastern Question itself—that is, the fate of Turkey not only in Europe but in Asia and Africa,—all chance of an accommodation would be at an end. If any Power wants to drag Europe into a war, the question will be raised, and the discussions will be protracted until the spring. Already, as we have observed before, there was a manifest tendency to divide into two camps; but in presence of the dangerous facts the Powers may recoil from the awful consequences, and agree to some more or less transitory compact. On the whole, though doubt still overhangs the upshot, the preservation of peace by means of conditions forced on Greece seems at present the more probable end of the rupture. One single line by telegraph may destroy these pleasing anticipations; and, therefore, they remain stamped with uncertainty. One additional and gratifying fact telling on the side of peace is the existence of a feeling against the policy of the Government, manifested in several important Greek towns. Even before the Conference had been proposed the commercial classes in Nauplia, Corinth, Patras had sent in protests, and the principal merchants and proprietors of Corfu, Cephalonia, Zante and Paxos had followed the example. The wiser Greeks, indeed, everywhere are hostile to the over-hasty ambition which prompts the Greek Ministry to try and pluck the fruit before it is ripe. But it is too soon to infer, as a French journal does, that "commerce has killed war in the minds of the people." Let us, at all events, keep clear of such a fatal delusion. It is almost as bad as placing reliance on Conferences and Congresses.

THE reported decisive battle in Paraguay, ending in the rout of Lopez, and the destruction of his army, will be received with satisfaction by all interested in the free navigation of the large rivers which drain into the estuary of the Plate. Lopez was the aggressor in a war which has been prosecuted with amazing pertinacity by Brazil and the Argentine Confederacy. The design of the Paraguayan dictator was to secure positions which would have given him practical command over all the waterways. For this he had made preparations extending over a long period of years. The huge works at the confluence of the Parana and Paraguay rivers were his Sebastopol, the stronghold whence he started suddenly forward down the broad and fertile valley, and where, if driven back, he trusted to defy and wear out his enemies. With less constancy they must have been virtually frustrated, even though Lopez had failed in his original design. It may now be hoped that the European Powers, who have great interests in that part of South America, will insist on the opening of all the rivers to the commerce of the whole world. Lopez, however, an ambitious man, who modelled himself on the Bonapartes, has won great renown by his daring advance and resolute defence; and it is impossible not to admire the simple faith and loyalty of the Paraguayans, who have literally died rather than surrender. They are a native race, and are evidently capable of the highest discipline, civil and military. In a better cause we should regret their fall before the mixed races who have overcome them.

THE SUPREME GOVERNMENT AND THE CATHEDRAL TRUSTEES.

WE understand that the Supreme Government has at length sanctioned the repayment of the money, diverted by the Cathedral Trustees from the Fort Christian School Fund, and subsequently by them restored, out of their own purses, to its original destination. While we rejoice that the Government of India has determined that the Trustees should not suffer from an error of judgment into which they had been led by legal opinion, we still think that the misdirection of the fund is a painful fact in our local history, and that had not public attention been called, with emphasis and persistency, to the case, the money would not have been refunded, and the education of poor children would have been sacrificed to the vehement importunities of certain Cathedral creditors. "All's well that ends well," but the example ought not to be forgotten.

THE Lord Justice-General, as Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh, has appointed Principal Sir Alexander Grant, Bart., LL.D., to be Vice-Chancellor.

WHEN the English mail left, opinions seem to have been pretty well balanced as to the likelihood of the differences between Turkey and Greece being settled. The "Home News" says these differences "give little promise of adjustment," while, according to the "Overland Mail," there was "a fair probability" of a settlement.

WE published on Saturday an amusing account, extracted from the "Liverpool Mercury," of a discussion which took place between Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright before the latter right hon. gentleman could be induced to take office. Papers received by the mail state that the story is altogether untrue.

WE learn from the China papers that the following is the decision of the Court respecting the loss of H. B. M. S. "Rattler":—"Commander Stephenson and his Navigating Lieutenant are adjudged to be admonished, and warned to be more careful for the future."

IT is confidently asserted, says "Native Opinion," that Government is about to make a nomination to the Legislative Council for the Marathi community, and that for this purpose half a dozen names of Marathi gentlemen are lying before H. E. the Governor to make a choice from.

THE "Bombay Guardian" informs us that a gentleman in England, well known for his benefactions, has given £300 towards the Ahmednuggur Normal School buildings of the Christian Vernacular Education Society; and £1,000 to the same Society to be expended in promoting the work of primary education in this Presidency.

IT will satisfy a large class of Indian officers to learn that the Government of India has, with certain modifications, approved of Colonel Broome's retiring scheme for field officers. The scheme, according to the "Friend of India," has been recommended for the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government. The change of Ministry will lead to delay in the settlement of this and other Indian questions now before the Home authorities.

SINCE the revelations made by our experience in the Abyssinian Expedition, and the discussion of the question in our columns and those of our contemporaries, the Government of India, says the "Friend," has had under consideration the subject of arming the sepoys with a rifle which will make them what they are paid to be—fighting men. The Secretary of State has recently been urged to sanction the gradual introduction of Enfield Rifles into the native army, beginning with a certain number of corps in each Presidency.

THE question of the financial relationship of the local Governments to the Supreme Government of India will, according to the "Madras Times," soon be brought formally before the Governor General in Council. The Financial Member of Council is said to be preparing a scheme which is partly of a centralising and partly of a decentralising character. It will apportion to each local Government the quota of the imperial expenditure which it must contribute, and leave it to expend the balance according to its local requirements. It is not stated what degree of independence the local Governments are to be allowed in framing their respective budgets.

COLONEL SEYMOUR BLANE, the late Military Secretary to the Viceroy, though he goes home in February, will, says the "Pioneer," return to meet the Duke of Edinburgh and accompany His Royal Highness on his travels through India.

DR FARQUHAR, Private Physician, and Cornet R. G. Kennedy, Aide-de-Camp to Sir John Lawrence, accompany His Excellency to England on duty.

THE East Indian Railway Company have reduced the freight on all food grains, flour and meal, to one-eighth, of a pie per maund per mile. This reduction applies only to grain sent upwards to the famine-stricken districts, or to movements of grain between Delhi and Jubulpore.

FREQUENT complaints have been made of the breakage of the seats of the "universal" pattern saddle supplied to the Artillery and Cavalry of the British Army. A plan, the "Pioneer" hears, has now been adopted by which the seat of the saddle is supported by webbing attached to the tree, on the same principle as in the old dragoon, or in the ordinary hunting, saddle.

CALCUTTA is unfortunate with its river. It appears that the proposal to lay down fourteen sets of new moorings above Armenian Ghat has been abandoned for the present, in consequence of a report from the Master Attendant that the river has silted up to a great extent over the space to be occupied by the new moorings.

REFERRING to the steps that have been taken under the instructions of the Government of India to relieve distress where famine prevails, the "Friend of India" asserts that official routine in Rajpootana is causing unnecessary delay. In Marwar, so unfortunate in its physical character and its government, "several have been found dead from cold and starvation."

A VACANCY having occurred in the higher grades of the Postal Department by the death of Doctor Impey, Post Master General of Bombay, who was on sick leave in England, the following arrangements, says the "Indian Daily News," have been proposed:—Major Battye, now Post Master General of the North-Western Provinces, to act as Post Master General of Bombay; Mr. C. H. Hutchinson, now Officiating Post Master General of Bengal, to take up the duties of the Post Master General, North-Western Provinces, permanently; and Mr. F. R. Hogg, now Post Master General of Bombay, to act as Post Master General of Bengal. In consequence of this arrangement, Captain W. N. Lane, Officiating Post Master General, Punjab, becomes permanent in his appointment.

THE efforts of our Government, to suppress the slave traffic on the East Coast of Africa, have lately brought to notice a similar trade pursued by subjects of the Rao of Kutch settled in Zanzibar, who form an influential section of the mercantile community there. They have for some time past, as we learn from a Calcutta contemporary, been actively engaged in this traffic, in its most revolting form, and as we have a treaty with Kutch, Government has called upon its accredited agent there to represent the matter, and its intention to act decisively.

THE "Sind News," of the 11th inst., alludes to some ugly rumours that were rife in Kurrachee of serious disturbances, of late occurrence, in Kattiawar. It was said that two step brothers of a Chief, there,—whose names are Motabhoy and Nanabhoy,—had headed a sort of rebellion.

A CALCUTTA contemporary says that the Government of India has sanctioned the appointment of another covenanted officer for completing the demarcation between the Native States of the Malwa, Bheel, and the Rewa Kanta Agencies.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Vizianagram arrived at Calcutta on the 10th inst. with about a hundred followers.

A "Gazette of India, Extraordinary," announces that Kumar Harendra Krishna, Rai Bahadoor, and Moonshee Ameer Ali, Khan Bahadoor, have had the privilege of the privy purse restored to them.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL MCLEVERTY and his staff were to leave Madras last Wednesday morning for Bellary and Kurnool. It is said to be the intention of His Excellency to choose Gooty as a military station.

LIEUTENANT C. B. COOKE, of the Madras Staff Corps, is to officiate as an Assistant Commissioner in British Burmah on probation.

WE learn from Madras that Lieutenant Colonel H. N. D. Prendergast, R.E., V.C., has been appointed officiating commandant of the Sappers and Miners, during the absence on furlough to Europe of Colonel Hill, R.E.

THE experimental cultivation of Carolina paddy in the Tinnevelly district has, according to the "Madras Athenæum," been pronounced to be a complete failure, though the grain yielded in some parts is much admired as being fine, white, and of a delicate flavour.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[PER REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GREAT BATTLE IN BRAZIL.

LONDON, 15TH JAN., EVENING.

Earl Clarendon and Mr. Reverdy Johnson have signed a Convention, regarding the Alabama claims, similar to that signed by Lord Henley.

The *Times* of to-day says that the conflict between Turkey and Greece will prevent the Prince of Wales from paying his intended visit to Athens.

Latest advices from the Brazils state that a great battle had taken place between the Brazilians and Paraguayans, resulting in the destruction of the Paraguayan army.

Lopez with 200 followers had escaped. The war is now intended to be over.

The names of Principal Forbes and Alexander Cameron Campbell appear in the Obituary of the week.

THE CONFERENCE.

LONDON, 16TH JAN., NOON.

The Conference again met yesterday. The decision arrived at is considered satisfactory. The final sitting will take place to-day.

Latest advices from Spain state that the elections have commenced.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have left Copenhagen.

PERA, 16TH JAN., 4-15 P.M.

A telegram received from Tauriz (Tabriz) announces the sudden departure of the Ottoman Minister from Teheran for Constantinople, in consequence of a misunderstanding relative to the question of inroads on the Persian frontier.

LONDON, 14TH JAN., AFTERNOON.

Fair Dhollera was quoted at Liverpool to-day 9¾d.

The Bank of England Returns for the week ending 14th January show the following results:—

Reserve of Notes	£ 9,375,000	Inc. £1,000,000
Bills Discounted	£17,750,000	Dec. £2,875,000
Cash „	£18,625,000	Inc. £ 125,000

[VIA ALEXANDRIA.]

LONDON, 30TH DEC., 1868.

The Greek Chambers have voted an extraordinary credit of 100 million drachmas and authorized the levy of men for the army and navy.

A Danish frigate has entered the Piræus. The Greek Government has issued a proclamation demanding the support of the people.

Baron Eder, Austrian Consul at Bucharest, has been nominated Envoy Extraordinary at Athens.

The Duke of Montpensier has issued a manifesto, declaring that he had always recommended the strictest Liberalism to Queen Isabella, and that now he only courts the rights of citizenship "di Espana Libera."

A reinforcement of 10,000 troops is preparing to leave for Cuba.

POLITICAL LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, 25TH DEC., 1868.

SOMETHING has been done this week to prevent the immediate outbreak of hostilities between Turkey and Greece. The Sultan's Government has so far yielded to the remonstrances of the representatives of the Great Powers as to waive the demand for the surrender of the blockade-runner *Enosis*, and let the ship be taken from Syra to the Piræus to be brought before the authorities there and tried as a pirate. This concession gives the Greeks one more opportunity of acknowledging the illegality of their efforts to prolong the insurrection in Crete; but in the present excited state of the national feeling no man in office at Athens will dare to grant the reparation the Turkish Government requires, or by a formal condemnation of the *Enosis* to declare that the ambitious policy of creating a Greek Empire in the East of Europe must be abandoned. The Porte has been well advised in showing its enemy so much forbearance; for the *onus* is now thrown on Greece of proving that the Government of King George, though it may not be able always to restrain its more adventurous subjects, is still willing, so far as its own acts are concerned, to respect international rights. Should the proposed Conference be held, the conduct of Turkey has practically left the Great Powers no alternative but to compel Greece to make atonement for what is a positive act of wrong-doing, if judged only by the strict rules of international law; and no Conference will be held unless the first condition of its existence be that all the Powers shall rigidly abstain from discussing the general question of the state of Turkey and the "natural rights" of the Greek people, and shall merely attempt to deal with actual events according to the ordinary rules of European diplomacy. It is obvious beforehand that the decision of such a Conference cannot be satisfactory to Greece or useful to Europe. The agitation in the East will never be allayed by such temporary expedients as a Conference would be likely to adopt. Indeed, the experience of recent years ought to have disabused the minds of all reasonable politicians of any faith in the efficacy of Conferences. It is only twelve years since the Congress of Paris disposed of the Eastern Question for, as was then supposed, the life-time of this generation at least; yet here is that irrepressible question thrust upon us again for solution, with all its original difficulties aggravated and made more dangerous by delay. Even the London Conference of last year about Luxemburg, which was thought to have done its work so thoroughly, had little real effect in keeping the peace between France and Prussia; for Count Bismarck stated only the other day that there would probably have been a war a few months ago but for the accident of the Spanish Revolution. And what is likely to be the fruit of another Conference now? Not the restoration of confidence and lasting peace among the nations, which is the legitimate end of such gatherings, but the increase of armaments which already oppress with crushing weight the taxpayers of Europe, and the renewal of activity in the immense preparations which have so long been going on for that great war which all European statesmen regard as inevitable. Whatever may be thought of the prudence of Lord Stanley's speech at Lynn on the decay of the Turkish Empire, it is certainly true that the whole East of Europe is simmering with discontent, which no Conference can repress that is not prepared to consider what are the best means of expelling the Turk from Europe.

It is still uncertain what part England will take in the dispute. The new Ministers were all careful, in their speeches at the re-elections to say nothing about the foreign policy of the Government: a necessary precaution, as it is only this week that the Cabinet has begun regular work. But there seems to be no expectation that in any case the old policy of upholding the Sultan's authority will be maintained. The dismemberment of Turkey is dreaded in England by mercantile [illegible] money to the Turkish Government, and because our trade in the Levant is so large and profitable, while England continues to hold India, she cannot permit a rival European Power to obtain possession of either Constantinople or Egypt. As for the Turkish bondholders, it may be fairly considered that they have already taken very good care of their own interests, and that they have no sort of claim to fetter the action of this country; while, as regards our trade, that is carried on, not with the Government, but with the people of Turkey, whose wants and tastes in material things would not be altered by the substitution of a Christian for a Mussulman Emperor at Constantinople. As, then, the sympathies of free Englishmen are naturally with the Greeks, it would seem that our Government might afford to indulge those sympathies and win for this country the enthusiastic attachment of the whole Greek people, if it believed itself strong enough at the same time to declare its firm resolution that under no circumstances would it let Russia or France profit by the break-up of the Turkish Empire. But of the three Powers most deeply interested in the settlement of the Eastern Question,—Russia, France, and England—not one dares at present to defy the other two; and thus all Europe remains armed to the teeth, watching and waiting and fearing to act, while the Turk, whom every one despises, is left practically the master of the situation.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council with Lord Cairns presiding, has, in giving final judgment in Mr. Mackonochie's case decided that the Church of England is a "Protestant" Church. Lord Cairns has cut the ground clear away from under the feet of the Ritualists by declaring it to be the law of the land that only such forms and ceremonies as are expressly prescribed in the Prayer Book are lawful, and that Mr. Mackonochie and his friends are not justified in supposing everything is lawful which is not expressly prohibited in that book. This clear and precise statement of the law comes very opportunely to strengthen the position of the Church, and regain for it a certain degree of popularity. The particular practices condemned by Lord Cairns are those of lighting candles and bowing to the altar during

SUPPLEMENT TO

The Bombay Gazette.

BOMBAY:—MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 1869.

THE BANK OF BOMBAY COMMISSION.

PROCEEDINGS IN LONDON.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED.)

(COMMISSIONERS—SIR CHARLES JACKSON, PRESIDENT, MAJOR McLEOD INNES, AND MAXWELL MELVILL, ESQ.)

TUESDAY, 8TH DECEMBER.

SIR BARTLE FRERE'S EVIDENCE.

SIR BARTLE FRERE was sworn and examined by the President—When did you take your seat as Governor of Bombay? A. On the 24th of April 1862.—Q. I think that the draft Act 10 of 1863 had then been approved by the Government of Bombay, and sent to the Government of India? A. Yes.—Q. It was with the Government of India when you arrived? A. I think so.—Q. It was returned approved by the Government of India with some slight modifications, which are immaterial now? A. I believe so.—Q. It was returned with the intimation that it should be passed by the Bombay Council? A. I believe so.—Q. Do you not think that it would have been better if the Government of India had passed it? A. It was a question for them to decide. President—But still we should be glad to have your opinion upon that point. Witness—In what respect?—Q. Would not recent legislation for the Bank of Bengal have caused the Legislative Council of India to have at once seen the great differences between that Act and the Act for the Bank of Bengal? A. No doubt the means at the disposal of the Legislature of India on a subject of this sort are much greater than those of the Government of Bombay, but the interest is concerned are, in a great many respects, very local, and my impression was; and is, that legislation of this sort affecting the charter of a local bank is likely to be better watched by the public of the place to which the Act refers.—Q. If it had been passed by the Government of India, would it not have been published in the Gazettes of Madras and Calcutta, and have attracted the attention of the officials of the banks here? A. It certainly would not have attracted the same amount of attention as the local Legislation.—Q. Do not you think that if it had been so published it would most probably have prevented the very relaxations in that Act, which were afterwards found there? A. I do not think that it would.—Q. Do you not think that the Council of India would have been a better machinery for dealing with it, considering that it had both a Finance Minister, and a legal member attached to it, both those members having lately considered the case of the Bank of Bengal. A. Certainly; but on the other hand the interests of the bank are all local, and the discussion which is necessary to the perfection of a measure of this sort can hardly take place at the distance between Bombay and Calcutta, with the same efficiency as when both parties are nearer the spot.—Q. Was there much discussion upon this Act in the Legislative Council of Bombay? A. There was less discussion than I expected in the Council; but there was discussion and useful discussion in the public prints, which, I think, would hardly have been expected if the Act had been passed in Calcutta. The difference would have been that instead of useful discussion brought to bear upon the Act before it was passed, there would have been unavailing complaint and recrimination at any supposed neglect of local wants, or wishes.—Q. Before the 12th of May 1862 the Act was returned to the Government of Bombay, was it not? A. I can tell you by referring to memoranda.—Q. Do you not recollect that on the 12th of May 1862 you sent the draft Act to the Secretary of State, with the intimation that it was intended to be brought forward again in the next July session? A. I have no doubt that you are right as to the date. I am speaking now from the dates which I find in the memorandum at page 76 of the blue book. President—You will see by paragraph 46 that you sent the proposed Act to the Secretary of State? A. Yes.—Q. With what object did you send it to the Secretary of State? A. We had received instructions that no legislation was to take place regarding the Bank of Bombay without the previous sanction and approval of both the Government of India and of the Secretary of State.—Q. Have you a copy of that letter? A. I am not sure whether I could lay my hands on a copy of the letter or whether it was an intimation conveyed to me demi-officially.—Q. Have you any demi-official letter? A. I will refer and see. If it were from the Secretary of State it would be a confidential letter. President—But I am sorry to say we have no confidences here. We must have all letters before us. Witness—If I can find any letter I will see in what form it is and I will inform the Commission. I may state that with regard to communications from the Secretary of State, I have always considered them confidential, and that it is not my duty to make use of them in evidence without the previous sanction of the Secretary of State by whom they have been written. President—That would not be any justification in a court of law for your withholding them, and we have just the same powers as a Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench has. We have the power of enforcing the production of any document, and there is no limitation upon that power except such limitation as the law imposes in courts of law. You must bring yourself within the exception allowed by a court of law if you wish to exclude any document from our consideration. Witness—It will be for the Commission to consider, should I have occasion to lay the matter before them, whether any communication from the Secretary of State comes within the category of a privileged communication which they would not insist upon being produced. President—It would not be privileged. The only document which you could refuse to produce according to the law would be a document which it would affect the interests of the State to produce. If you could bring a document within that category, namely, that the interests of the State will be affected at this period of time by the production of a letter dated three or four years ago, that perhaps would bring it within the exception. Witness—Should I be required by the Commission to produce any letter from the Secretary of State that would be a point for the Commissioners to consider. President—I should certainly wish to see that letter. Did not that letter contain an express direction that the Act was to be passed in accordance with the draft Act for the Bank of Bengal. Witness—I am not aware of that, and without referring to the letter I cannot speak positively.—Q. You have no recollection as to that fact, that it contained a positive injunction that the Act was to be in accordance with the Bengal Act? A. I have this recollection, that at the time when the Act was sent back to us, and in fact, from the beginning of these proceedings, I had a distinct understanding that no legislation was permitted to us in Bombay without the previous approval both of the Government of India and of the Secretary of State. My impression was that that proviso was stated in some of the official documents on the subject. I have not been able to trace any official document which expressly says so, and, therefore, I speak on a probability that I might find it in a confidential letter from the Secretary of State. I can only speak to my own distinct understanding that I was not at liberty to deal with this subject as I should have dealt with it had it been an ordinary matter before us.—Q. According to your recollection did not that letter contain an express direction that you were to proceed in legislating for the Bank of Bombay according to the draft Act then passing, or about to pass, for Bengal? A. Without referring to the letter, I cannot say. President—It is most important for us to have that letter? A. I believe the Commissioners' pardon, but I am not positive that the letter does exist. I speak positively on the point that I had a distinct understanding, which I communicated to all my colleagues, to everybody connected with the Government, that we were not to legislate without a previous reference to the Secretary of State, and the Government of India. I find in the official documents upon the subject a great many references to that understanding, but I have not been able to trace any distinct official prohibition, and therefore I conclude that I may have got my impression from a confidential letter. It may have been from the Secretary of State, it may have been from the Governor General, or it may have been communicated to me in other ways—I can only speak distinctly as to the disability under which I felt that I was placed and to the necessity under which I felt that we were to refer to the Secretary of State, and to the Government of India before legislating.—Q. If that is so, have you any doubt that you had a confidential communication? A. I cannot speak positively upon that subject. President—You would not have conversed with either the Secretary of State or the Government of India? A. Certainly not. It may be in an official communication which I am not able to trace.—Q. Then perhaps we had better adjourn the production of that document until the first thing on Thursday morning. Can you attend us then? A. Certainly.—Q. Will you search for that document, and then we will consider the question. I must express my opinion, of course, subject to further consideration that you cannot withhold any document from the Commission unless you are able to swear that considerations of State policy render it unadvisable to produce that document? A. I should be glad if the Commission would reserve their decision upon that point, because it appears to me to be a matter of extremely grave consideration whether any official in the position of the Governor of a presidency or of a colony is at liberty to produce in his own defence, or in the defence of his Government, communications which he has received from one of the Secretaries of State. I merely state my difficulty, and it will be for the Commission to consider it. My only motive for withholding that document would be one which must tell against my own Government.—Q. Do you or do you not, recollect an express direction proceeding from anybody to follow the Bengal Act? A. Decidedly; we were to follow the Bengal Act as far as possible with certain exceptions and limitations, a great many of which are set out in this memorandum.—Q. From whom did you receive that direction? A. My principal information on this subject is derived from the summary, and if you will indicate any particular point on which you would wish for further elucidation, I will endeavour to supply you with it. President—I know the summary almost by heart, and I want to get further information than the summary gives. I wish to know whether you received any instructions, and from whom, not mentioned in that summary, as to the preparation of the draft Act? A. With the exception of such confidential communications as I have mentioned, I am not aware of any. There may be others which I may find on searching. If there is any particular point on which the Commission will have the goodness to say, "We wish for further elucidation on this question," I will make search. President—Let us perfectly understand one another. I consider it material for the interests of this Commission that we should have all the correspondence, whether official, demi-official, or confidential, with respect to the passing of Act X. of 1863, and I hope that you will attend on Thursday morning and produce all such documents, or give some legal reason why they should not be produced and we will then deal with that legal reason. Witness—I trust that the Commission will believe that I have the most earnest wish to place at their disposal every sort of information which I possess on this subject. There is one class of communications to which I have referred, namely, those from the Governor General, as to which, for reasons of public policy and in opposition to my own interests, I should be glad if the Commissioners took the same view as I take, namely, that they are not to be produced, solely for reasons of public policy and with no view to defend myself or my Government. With that single exception I have the utmost wish to produce every paper which I can produce. President—If that be the case there will be no difficulty in your applying for, and getting the leave of the Secretary of State to produce those documents. Do you not think so? Witness—My impression is that the Secretaries of State generally would take the view which I take in this matter, but it will be for the Commission to judge upon the point when I put in their hands a letter and say, "This is a letter, which for reasons of public policy, I deem ought not to be made public." President—At present we will adjourn that question. You will take a note that we want all confidential and demi-official communications received either from the Secretary of State or from the Governor General, containing instructions or otherwise relating to Act X. of 1863, and that we shall expect their production or a valid excuse for their non-production, the first thing on Thursday morning? Witness—I trust that the Commission in the meantime will weigh the general objection which I have suggested on grounds of public policy. President—On the 16th of September 1862 there was a letter addressed by the Secretary of State to the Governor General, which was also forwarded to you for your instruction. It was not an answer to the letter of the 12th of May at all, or intended to be, was it? It chiefly related to the currency and only had a few incidental observations as to banking matters. Witness—Are you referring to the document mentioned in paragraph 49 of the summary? President—Yes. It is mentioned in the summary. Do you remember referring that despatch of the Secretary to the solicitor of the Government for his opinion. You will find the material part of it set out in the summary at page 77? A. I find it in the abstract of the proceedings of the Government of Bombay for November 1862, a despatch from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India, No. 64, dated 16th September 1862.—Q. That is the one to which I allude. Did not you refer that, with the draft Act, to the solicitor of the Government? A. Yes.—Q. Did you carefully read Mr. Bickersteth's reply or opinion upon it. A. I cannot say whether I read that particular paper carefully. I read every part of this correspondence as it came before me with great care.—Q. Then you remember the particularly cautious terms in which that opinion was expressed? A. If you will have the kindness to let me see the letter I will state.—Q. It is set out in page 77 of the summary. In the 6th paragraph it is said "In other respects, I have not altered the provisions of the Bill and do not express any opinion as to its propriety or otherwise. (7) The enclosure marked A shows in red ink the amendment which I think should be made in the 22nd section of the Bill, and if they are approved, I will submit them to the solicitors of the Bank of Bombay. (8) Upon a comparison of the powers intended to be conferred upon the bank with its existing powers, and those of the Bank of Bengal as heretofore constituted, it will be observed that they are considerably extended, and in some respects, exceed those now conferred upon the Bank of Bengal by Act IV. of 1862. (9) The Secretary of State in the 33rd paragraph of the despatch desires 'that the business of the bank be restricted to legitimate banking operations, such as those transacted by the Bank of England, or by the Bank of Bengal, as heretofore constituted. (10) So far as I am aware the powers, intended to be conferred by the Bill, though more extended in some respects than those of the Bank of Bengal as heretofore or at present constituted, do not exceed those of the Bank of England, but my knowledge on this subject is very limited." Did that strike you at all? A. It did not strike me more than any other part of the letter. I paid every attention to it, as was due to an opinion coming from the solicitor.—Q. You see that he called the attention of the Government very forcibly to the fact that this Act was much more extensive in its operation than that of the Bank of Bengal? A. Yes.—Q. You were otherwise perhaps aware of that fact? A. Certainly.—Q. Then it appears that afterwards you adopted Mr. Archibald Robertson's suggestions as to the verbosity of this Act, and referred it to Mr. Advocate General Lewis. You will see at paragraph 56, page 79, that he made very little alteration in it, and then you referred it to the Legislative Department. Did you ever read this Act, and compare its provisions with those of the Act for the Bank of Bengal? A. I looked over the Act with all the papers relating to it, with as much care as I could give to a subject with which I was practically comparatively unacquainted. My view of our duty was, that it was desirable, in the first instance, to know from the Bank of Bombay what form they wished the charter to take with reference to any alterations which might be proposed, and, having done that, to criticise it with such means as we had at our disposal, and then to lay the best draft which we could procure of a Legislative measure before the Government of India and the Secretary of State, to await their criticism upon it, and then to pass the measure with any modifications which might seem desirable.—Q. The Act was read a first time on the 4th of February 1853, was it not? A. Yes. It appears so from the summary. President—It was then referred to a committee of the Council. That does not appear there, but I know it. Witness—That would be the usual course.—Q. Did that committee make any, and what report? I have not seen it. A. I can inform you probably by referring to my papers.—Q. When you were referred to by Mr. Robertson about the verbosity of the Act, I find that you did in one of the very few minutes which I find of yours say, "I would, as a rule, adopt the briefer language of the Bengal Act where the meaning is identical." From that I suppose you did not mean that you intended to adopt the principles of the Bengal Act, but merely that you would adopt its language as preferable language to the other, where the meaning was identical? A. I have not seen this minute probably since it was written.—Q. You merely meant by that that where the Bengal Act and the Bombay Act appeared to convey the same thing, you would prefer the language of the Bengal Act? A. That is apparently my meaning.—Q. Then on the 11th of March, 1863, the Act was read a second time, and was passed, was it not? A. You can tell by the Legislative proceedings.—Q. Was there any real discussion in the Legislative Council about this Act? I find in the proceedings which are printed that two speeches were made by Mr. Tristram, but I find nothing else, and they were upon other points? A. The printed proceedings no doubt give a very fair account of what passed. My own impression, and I believe the impression of the members of the Government at the time, generally was that the measure had been sifted as far as it was possible for us to sift it, and that it then rested with the conferring authority to say whether we had made such a measure as they considered expedient.—Q. What do you consider to have been the policy of the Act? What did you understand by it? A. I understood that in consideration of the withdrawal of the right to issue notes, the jurisdiction of the bank was to be less restricted than it had been.—Q. It was your intention to remove many of the restrictions which were to be found in the Acts of the Bank of Bengal and the Bank of Madras. That was your positive intention? A. I considered that the bank was allowed by the Government of India and by the Secretary of State to have a less restrictive action in consequence of the withdrawal of the right to issue notes.—Q. Did you ascertain what the old restrictions were, and what further liberty was intended to be given by the new Act? A. In a general way I did. I went through every part of the papers from time to time as they were submitted to me, and made myself, as far as I could, acquainted with their general bearing.—Q. Were you aware that the old Act did not allow the bank to discount negotiable securities unless two persons or firms unconnected in partnership were bound? A. I cannot speak to particular points of that sort at this distance of time. I have explained to the Commissioners the mode in which the measure was dealt with. It was repeatedly before us at intervals extending over many months, and every time that it came before us, I did my best to look into the particular point which was then before us, or that particular point attracted my especial notice, I should be unwilling to state at this distance of time, beyond the general result that I considered that when we had taken all this trouble to send the drafts backwards and forwards, and to let every body concerned know what was intended, we had as nearly as possible produced such a measure as the Secretary of State and the Government of India would approve. President—You will excuse me, but that was not your usual way of doing business. You generally looked into things yourselves; did not rely upon other people. A. I did not mean to say that I relied upon any one else. I formed my judgment upon what I then saw and heard for myself.—Q. I understand from you that you thought that this measure was to remove restrictions. A. Certainly.—Q. Did you not apply your mind to consider what restrictions were to be removed, and what relaxation was to take place? A. In a general way I did.—Q. I suppose that if you had any difficulty about it, you would inform yourself from enquiry of those persons who were competent to give you a good opinion? A. Certainly.—Q. Did not you know that the old Act restricted discounts, for instance, and that it was necessary that they should represent a real transaction,—that there should be a bill drawn by one party on another or promissory note of the borrower? A. The new Act simply says "negotiable securities" which may mean a promissory note in a simple name. Do you remember that great relaxation being brought to your notice, or ever striking you? A. That certainly did not attract my notice.—Q. Then again there were many other restrictions. There was one as to time. It was originally to run for three months, which was a very prudent restriction in the old Act. But in the new Act there was no restriction as to time. Were you aware of that? A. I recollect enquiring, but I forget from whom, with regard to one of the restrictions which was removed, respecting time; and I was informed that it was found practically that restrictions regarding time were inoperative when there was any particular motive or desire to get over them, and that restrictions of that sort were rather a snare and a delusion than a real safeguard. A very dishonest secretary would certainly, it might be so; but it is not a usual principle of banking to allow of discounts for more than three months at a time? A. I am not sure whether the restriction related particularly to discounts or to any particular form of note. I recollect enquiring of somebody, but of whom I do not recollect, to inform me as to the wisdom of removing a restriction regarding time, and that was the general substance of the opinion which was given to me.—Q. Did it not strike you at all at that time that the old Act prohibited any advance on bank shares or on any certificate of shares, whereas the new Act allowed an advance upon the shares of public companies in India? A. That did not particularly strike me at the time.—Q. We have discovered how that alteration was made, and it was made before it came before the Government, so that I need not ask you about it. Did it not strike you that the old Act prohibited an advance to one person of more than three lacs and that the new Act contained no restriction? A. That did not strike me.—Q. The old Act forbade any overdrawing of accounts. The new Act, in its original form, had a prohibition against the overdrawing of accounts in schedule B, but that was struck out in the Legislative Council, so that in fact the new Act contained no such restriction. Was your attention called to that point in any way? A. Not specially that I recollect. With regard to the removal of that schedule of bye-laws, since I have seen some of the proceedings of the Commission there has been recalled to my recollection the reason why that schedule was left out. It was considered that it might very likely require modification, and that it would be extremely difficult to modify it in the manner which might be necessary if it were requisite to come every time to the legislature for to alter a single bye-law, and that it was the better plan to leave it to the board of directors.—Q. Did you remark that the old Act required the Governor General to authorise any increase of capital, and that the new Act dispensed with that requirement and left it entirely to the shareholders? A. I do not remember observing that, but I do not think that it would have attracted my particular attention at the time, because at the time I was not at all aware of any risk which was run in increasing the capital of the bank, beyond the risk to the shareholders of being called on to pay money which might be idle.—Q. Did it strike you that the capital under the old Act was half a crore, and that the new Act authorised two crores and nine lacs? A. I was aware of that fact.—Q. Of course it is only a matter of opinion. We are not a court of law, and we should like to have the opinion of a person of your position. What is your opinion now of that Act X. of 1863? Witness—In what respect? President—Do you think that it was a wise or prudent measure? A. Judged by my present lights, I certainly do not consider that it was a wise or prudent measure. At the time I considered that we had taken every possible pains to make it what was considered a wise and prudent measure by those who had a larger view of such a subject than we had.—Q. What am I to understand from that answer. Do you mean to say that you relied upon the commercial members of the Legislative Council, or is it the Secretary of State or the Governor General of India to whom you refer? A. As a matter of opinion I think that we do not prossess, and did not possess in Bombay or in any part of India, the amount of intelligence and experience with regard to banking affairs which is necessary to pass a really good and sound bank charter for such a large institution as a bank connected with the Government and supported by the Government ought to be. As a matter of opinion, I should hold that it is only in a place like London that you can find that amount of commercial experience and knowledge of banking matters which would render legislation perfectly safe with regard to what may be considered the national banks of India.—Q. Does not that opinion rather tend to show the boldness (to use the mildest term) of making any great departure from the old Acts which had worked so well? A. I am speaking now of matters of opinion. My opinion expressed before I went to Bombay at all had always been against partial and local legislation and the constitution of local banks with the large powers required for an imperial bank in India. I had held, and I hold now, a very strong personal opinion that in order to execute the functions which were expected of us in the Bombay bank you require a bank formed with at least as much deliberation and with the aid of as much experience and banking knowledge as the Bank of England. I might say even more so, because, as the Commission is aware, the mercantile peculiarities of India are in many respects different from those of England, and in addition to everything which relates to the difficulties of framing a good bank charter in England, you have the added difficulties of dealing with a very old and experienced, and widely extended, and rich native mercantile community who have been for many ages dealing with this very matter of banking, on different principles, and in a different manner from the bankers of Europe.—Q. Still does not the question remain that if there was such a great difficulty in getting sufficient experience to frame an Act, it would have been better for the large Council of the Governor General to have retained it, or better for you not to have departed so very much from the old line? A. It is quite possible as a matter of speculation that the bank charter Act might have been passed in a better form if it had been sent to Calcutta, but as a matter of opinion I am not at all satisfied that you would have had a better measure if it had been passed in Calcutta. I will mention the reason why. Whenever the Bombay directors or shareholders wished for a relaxation of the restrictions which the Governor General might have wished to have imposed, the probability is that the question would not have been pressed very earnestly in the Bombay view upon the Calcutta Legislature, and it is quite possible that the Act might have been passed with even less consideration with a view to alteration than we gave to it in Bombay. President—Before we pass for the present from this question of Act X., I wish to ask you whether you can give me a list of the non-official members of the Legislative Council at the time of the passing of that Act. Witness—I will take a note of that.—Q. I find by the bank minutes of the 2nd of February 1862 that the directors asked Rustomjee, Mr. Tristram, and Mr. Scott, to look after the Bill in the Legislative Council. Then shortly after the Act was brought in, they asked Mr. Scott to do so. Had Rustomjee and Mr. Tristram retired in the meantime? Witness—I will obtain that information.—Q. How many commercial members were there when the Council was full. A. That I cannot speak of. President—I should like to have those particulars? A. Before leaving this question of the charter Act, I would beg to mention that my opinion on this subject, with all the pains which we might take upon it, with regard to the difficulty of passing bank charters in Legislative Councils in India was repeatedly stated to the Government of India both before and since the passing of this Act. It is no recent opinion which I have taken up from what has passed.—Q. Have you any copy of a letter which you can show us, pointing out those difficulties before? A. I had held on this point very much the opinions which Mr. Wilson held with regard to the necessity of having a national bank for India.—Q. A general bank for all India? A. Yes.—Q. I have seen some of your opinions on that subject. The next question to which I will turn is that of the increases of capital. Were you consulted at all in respect to those increases? A. I cannot tell in what particular form I was consulted, but with the permission of the Commission, I will refer them to what was one of the original reasons for increasing the capital, which, as far as I can judge from the evidence which I have read, has escaped the attention of the Commission. President—As to the first increase I think there can be no doubt that it was a very wise and prudent measure. The note circulation had been withdrawn, and the bank had to supply that vacuum. Witness—I am not sure whether that point has not been before the Commission; they relate to a crisis which took place in November 1863. President—No. We have not seen those letters. Witness—In November 1863 the Government were addressed in these terms first of all by the manager of the Commercial Bank of India:—

"To A. D. ROBERTSON, ESQ.,

Financial Secretary to the Government.

SIR,—I beg to bring to your notice the extremely critical state of financial matters in Bombay at the present moment, and to express my conviction that unless Government interferes in some manner so as to grant relief, something approaching to a general bankruptcy must take place within the next few days. The mint is working in a more dilatory manner than it ever was known to do before when such an amount of bullion had been tendered to it for coinage, and it is reported that the orders at the mint are that the assay department shall not work in excess of the coinage of 20 lacs a day. At present I believe the out-turn is only about 2 lacs a day. Last year when the pressure was not half so severe as now, the mint worked night and day, and the out-turn was double what it is at present."

Then he goes on to suggest a measure which I will not read unless the Commission wish me to do so. Then the agent for the Oriental Bank Corporation, Mr. MacNeil, addressed Mr. Robertson on the 16th of November in the same manner:—

"I have the honor to bring to your notice the present unexampled state of commercial affairs in Bombay. You are doubtless aware of the critical state of the money market, and the great difficulty the public have in procuring money on any security whatever. Should no relief be afforded and any alarm arise in the bazaar, it is difficult to predict what the consequences might be."

—Q. What is the exact date of those letters? A. 16th November 1863. President—That was after the first increase of capital. Witness—Then it tells even more strongly on the point. There are, then, various suggestions as to the increase of the power of the mint, and so on.—Q. As I understand you, your object in reading these letters is to show that there was really a want of more capital in Bombay at that time? A. Then here is a letter from the Government of Bombay to the Government of India, dated the 20th November 1863:—

"I am directed to bring to the notice of the Government of India the critical position in which the money market of Bombay is at present placed. The Bank of Bombay raised its rates on a sudden to 11 per cent. on Government bills and 12 per cent. on private bills, and has during the last three weeks been obliged to refuse all accommodation to the public for want of available funds at its command, and on how and the bank's balance fallen that on the 14th instant it stood only as follows:—

Cash	Rs. 4,13,733
Notes	,, 5,77,600
Total Rs.	9,91,333

The other banks, it is believed, are also in a similar position, and the managers of two of them (the Commercial Bank and the Oriental Corporation), copies of whose letters are annexed, have addressed Government on the subject, requesting that the Mint Master be authorized to issue mint certificates for amounts appropriate to the value of the silver bullion tendered to the mint for coinage. This state of matters, which it was believed, would have been relieved after the Dewali (at which time there is always a pressure owing to the practice of the native merchants of accumulating all their available money in their houses for luck's sake) is, I am to observe, now found to exist, and there is no want of bullion in the hands of the banks and European firms, and if this bullion could be converted into coin the immense pressure on the market would at once be removed."

—Q. Then I understand you to say that you thought that the second increase of capital would be a wise and prudent measure? A. This was one of the facts which came to our notice which was reported to the Government of India and also to the Secretary of State in a despatch of the 28th of November 1863, and which seemed to show that, even as it then stood, the Bank of Bombay had not sufficient means to do what was necessary for a bank in that position to do for the commercial interests of the place. President—I asked you whether you were consulted upon the increase of the capital. I did not quite catch your answer. Witness—I do not recollect being specifically consulted as Governor. I knew that an increase was talked about, and that the subject would come on for discussion, but I do not recollect being consulted as to whether it was necessary.—Q. You were not consulted as to the third increase of the capital? A. I have no recollection of being previously consulted. My view was that we might leave the bank to judge of this matter for themselves. The evil which the proceedings which you are now investigating have brought to light, of a large unemployed capital leading to an improvident use of it, had not then occurred to me. There was a great complaint of the bank for keeping its money unemployed, and being very slow in making use of it, and giving very small dividends to the shareholders, and my impression was that the bank were prudently and wisely disposed to take proper care of the funds at its disposal, and that there were two special reasons why we should leave it to them—the chief bankers of the place to consider what capital was necessary to them. Those reasons were, first, a pressure of the kind to which I have just referred; and, secondly, the just ground of complaint which the bank had with regard to the Government balances at different places. That point has a great bearing upon this question. The bank was formerly connected with the Government, and I believe the opinion was shared by the Government of India and by the Secretary of State, that it was not a provident measure to have given over to the Bank of Bengal the Government balances without the bank possessing a larger capital than it did possess; that the temptation which the bank was under would be to use for ordinary commercial purposes the Government balances which might be called for to any amount at any time, and which were a precarious resource of the bank; and that it was necessary before the Government balances were entrusted to the bank, that the bank should be in a stronger position as regarded its own capital. I am not certain how I got the impression, but my impression was that the Government of India as then constituted and the Secretary of State would not have permitted us to make over the Government balances without the bank having funds at their disposal from sources the directors conceive they were justified in relying upon, the head office has been compelled to keep them supplied. Instead of being feeders to it, as it was expected they would be, they have been a continuous drain."

—Q. What is the date of that minute? A. The 28th of January 1864.—Q. Why did you refer this matter to the Governor General of India? A. We were not competent to make over the balances without the sanction of the Government of India. The whole of the account department is directly under the Government of India, and the Government of India corresponds direct with the Accountant General, and the movement of funds, and the provision of funds, is one of the functions which the Government of India especially reserves to itself. The matter has been one of frequent complaint and discussion with the Government of India, but the point is one to which the Government of India attaches great importance. President—The agreement provides:—

"That if at any time during the continuance of this agreement the said bank shall establish a branch office at any town or place other than Bombay, and the Governor of Bombay in Council shall offer to the directors of the said bank for the time being, and the said directors shall, on behalf of the bank, accept the business of the Government of Bombay for the district or locality within which such branch shall be established, or the business of issuing and circulating the Government paper currency within such district or locality, then and in every such case the business so arranged to be taken up and performed by the said bank shall be carried on under and subject to the provisions of this agreement so far as the same are applicable, and on the basis of the clauses cited in margin, being the third and fifth paragraphs of the memorandum of the Government of India of the 20th of March 1861, relating to the establishment of such branch bank, except in so far as the provisions of this agreement, or of the said clauses, may be modified or altered by any special agreement which the said Secretary of State in Council, through the Governor of Bombay in Council, may from time to time enter into with the said bank with reference to the business so to be carried on at the particular branch bank."

I suppose that you considered, did you not, that that authorized you to deal with the bank? Witness—Certainly not in the way of transferring Government balances to it.—Q. That agreement was approved of by the Governor General in Council? A. We certainly had no power to make over the Government balances without the distinct sanction of the Government of India. President—We considered that to be in the Financial Department, as to which the Governor General was supreme. Witness—Yes. I find that on the 18th of May in the same year 1864, the Bank of Bombay forwarded to the Government of Bombay a copy of a letter, addressed by the directors of the bank to Sir Charles Trevelyan, complaining of the delay. President—We have that in the minutes. Witness—Then I find that on the 24th September 1864, there are two more letters from the Bank of Bombay to Sir Charles Trevelyan on the subject of the present position of the bank. President—I think we have those letters. Witness—Then there is a letter from the Government of Bombay to the Governor General of India:—

"The Governor in Council trusts that the sanction of the Government of India will be accorded to the arrangements which have been agreed to between this Government and the bank with the view of carrying out the transfer to it of the business of the mofussil treasuries, and which have been concluded so as to avoid the necessity of any cash payments to the bank on account of establishments, and on terms which His Excellency in Council conceives to be more advantageous to the Government than the agreement made with the Bank of Bengal with the same object."

—Q. What is the date of that letter? A. September 24th 1864. Then there are the two letters to Sir Charles Trevelyan. I have not been able to trace them, but they must have been voluminous letters, for they occupy several pages.—Q. Was there no answer from the Government of India to the letter which you have read? A. I am not aware of any; there was certainly nothing which enabled us to act. I ought, perhaps, to mention that I have understood that the Secretary of State disapproved of the arrangements under which the Government balances had been transferred to the Bank of Bengal, and that pending a decision on that discussion this matter was held over as regarded Bombay.—Q. Then probably you had some demi-official communication to that effect? A. Probably that was the impression which I had at the time.—Q. Namely, that there was a discussion going on between the Secretary of State and the Governor General as to the transfer of the treasuries to the Bank of Bengal? A. I understood that the treasuries had been transferred, and that the Secretary of State expressed his disapprobation of the terms under which the transfer had been made, and that pending the decision of the question at issue between the Secretary of State, and the Governor General of India, this matter as regarded the transfer in Bombay was held over.—Q. Have you any demi-official letter stating that? A. I will see.—Q. I find that we must add to the requisition which we have made that on Thursday morning, that you produce demi-official letters as well as confidential letters. The two are very much the same, are they not? A. Unless the subject matter is specified, the demi-official correspondence is very considerable.—Q. Of course it would be relating to the Bank of Bombay? A. But with regard even to that the demi-official correspondence is extremely voluminous. President—Unless you can bring it within some legal objection, I should like to see it. Witness—I have not the least objection with regard to the greater part of it, but I have great difficulty in knowing what the Commission requires. President—I should like to see all those letters, and then we will return all those which we do not want. I should like to read everything relating to the Bank of Bombay. Have you any further papers to which to refer us? Witness—Certain papers in April 1864, which illustrate the mode in which the correspondence passed between the Government of India and the Accountant General. President—I do not think we want that. Witness—It shows how the correspondence went on without reference to the Government of Bombay. President—I am quite aware of that. I know that the Financial Department is quite a distinct branch. Witness—I have no doubt that I can refer to other letters which will illustrate the way in which we pressed this matter upon the Government of India.—Q. We will turn to another matter. Do you remember the establishment of the branch bank at Kalbadavie? A. I recollect that there was a branch opened at Kalbadavie.—Q. Do you remember that it was brought before you in Council? A. I do not recollect its being specially discussed in Council. I find in these abstracts that the bank wrote a letter on the subject, and that it was approved.—Q. That was the letter (handing the same to the witness.) Did you authorise Mr. Robertson to sanction the establishment of that branch at Kalbadavie? A. I cannot say whether this was authorised or not. My invariable custom, I believe, when a paper came before me, was to initial any initials or some mark of its having passed through my hands with the date. President—Mr. Robertson says that he has no doubt of that fact, and that the letter was produced by him at the Council and read, and the order taken verbally? Witness—It is very possible.—Q. Do you recollect the transaction? A. I have no recollection of anything of that sort passing in Council, or when Mr. Robertson attended me with his box of papers.—Q. Was your attention called to the clause of the Act at that time, authorising branches? A. I have no recollection of anything of the kind. My recollection goes no further than that the bank was established, and with the approval of the Government.—Q. Were you aware of the clause of the Act which only authorised the establishment of branches outside of Bombay? (Handing the Act to the witness.) A. The question whether this Kalbadavie branch was or was not properly established under this clause (I speak almost confidently) was never raised.—Q. Whose duty was it to bring that matter before the Government? A. It was certainly the duty of the Government to see that no branch was established contrary to law. President—My colleague suggests to me whether the fact of your name not being on that document may be explained by the circumstance that it would be sent round in a slip, and that the slip would be signed by you. Witness—The fact of my name not being to this document in no way diminishes my responsibility for the Act, because I have no doubt that in the printed abstracts this would appear as routine business, and would be disposed of without previous reference to Government. It was my duty, and as far as possible I performed that duty, to look through these abstracts and to note wherever the sanction of Government ought to have been obtained. If, as I conclude, this is among the printed abstracts, the responsibility of myself as Governor is the same as if it had been previously submitted to me.—Q. What was your system? The Calcutta system used to be that there was a list of the business in one margin, and the note of the secretary in the other. The way of doing business was, that any papers of any importance, which was not considered routine, was either sent round to one or more members of the Council, or was submitted at a Council, and if it went round, it was the duty of every member, whether he passed an opinion or not, to put his initials and the date, so as to show that he had passed the paper. If it passed at Council, the secretary would usually make a note that it had passed with or without discussion. Matters of routine, or matters upon which the secretary seemed certain that he knew what the Government orders would be, he might dispose of at once without previous reference, but they would all appear in the printed abstract, of which copies ought to be furnished to the Governor, and he should run his eye over them and see whether in any of the matters which had passed without previous discussion or reference, the secretary's powers had been exceeded.—Q. There is nothing there which leads you to doubt Mr. Robertson's statement, that he must have produced that letter to you in Council? A. Nothing. President—The next point to which we will refer is the steps which you took to repress speculation in Government officers. You republished, I think, all the previous orders and minutes, did you not, about the 16th of November 1864? On the 16th of November 1864 you issued an order and republished the minutes of Lord Dalhousie and Lord Elgin. First of all you published the minute of Lord Dalhousie of the 28th of May 1852, which prohibits interference with the management of the company. Here are the minutes, if you like to look at them. (Handing the same to the witness.) I would just call your attention, for the sake of clearness, to the fact that the minute does not bear upon myself, or my Government in any way. Is there any reason for withholding the minutes on the subject; and after the discussion which I have referred the Government collectively came out that notification. The Commander-in-Chief, Sir William Mansfield, thought that it went rather further than we were justified in going, and he submitted an alternative draft, but after discussion, I adopted my own draft, with the concurrence of Mr. Inverarity.—Q. I ask the question again, because you have not answered it. Did you know that any director of the bank was engaged in speculation. Did you hear of it? A. I had heard in the manner [illegible] one of the Government [illegible] son, had accepted allotments [illegible] time was that? A. I [illegible] Gazette, and on reading [illegible] with regard to the matter [illegible] on the same day or the [illegible] business and commerce [illegible] this paragraph, and [illegible] He admitted that [illegible] in shares? A. [illegible] shares.—Q. Was [illegible] admitted before [illegible] he was a director [illegible] ed that [illegible] notice [illegible]

"The Governor in Council [illegible] public servants of Government [illegible] there is so strong [illegible] extreme importance [illegible] vious orders above [illegible] of the law, and to [illegible] action in accordance [illegible] Clerk, concurred in by [illegible] of State."

The particular objection [illegible] been informed [illegible] taken shares under the [illegible] tary of State that [illegible] stock companies [illegible] ment of the resources [illegible] would not have taken [illegible] aware of Sir George Clerk's views on the subject. The [illegible] we went on to remark [illegible] vernment generally [illegible] necessity of avoiding [illegible] fetter their action [illegible] and important respect [illegible] service upon them. [illegible] which it was possible [illegible] to the permission [illegible] Government of India [illegible] rally to hold shares [illegible] the order aright, [illegible] prohibition, but that [illegible] servants did invest [illegible] their future prospects [illegible] really the substance [illegible] ly the substance of [illegible] quiry at that time [illegible] demoralization had [illegible] there was no other [illegible] matter of such [illegible] the Government generally [illegible] took so much pains [illegible] could learn about [illegible] them.—Q. Were [illegible] likely to injure the [illegible] ment service at the [illegible] would not specially [illegible] as most dangerous [illegible] service generally, and [illegible] red to me as possible [illegible] Q. I am to understand [illegible] of the 16th of November [illegible] could, with propriety [illegible] Commission will allow [illegible] nutes which passed [illegible] cussed. President—[illegible] which I refer are two [illegible] the Commander-in-Chief [illegible] the same.)—Q. You [illegible] conveyed in a note [illegible] dated the 2nd of March [illegible] that was the date [illegible] Not here.—Q. We [illegible] note. Have you any [illegible] contained nothing [illegible] died in a despatch. [illegible] it, and to judge for [illegible] that note as with reference [illegible] cretary of State, I can [illegible] ing shares in jute [illegible] this paragraph, and [illegible] object the development [illegible] try." The Secretary [illegible] George Clerk's [illegible] which he expresses [illegible] practice, and he [illegible] that supercession [illegible] noticing the matter [illegible]

The Governor in Council [illegible] public servants of Government [illegible] there is so strong [illegible] extreme importance [illeg

read your Military Secretary's telegram of the 21st, enquiring whether we have taken steps to ascertain the quality of the good outstanding bills and securities which the Bank hold's." That was the telegram, was it? A. Yes.—Q. I am reading a paragraph from your letter in the confidential appendix at page 10? A. Yes.—Q. Then you go on to say:—"This was done some six weeks ago when Sir Charles Wood drew my attention to the managements of the Bank, and the result was better than I then expected. The advances on shares without collateral security were not large, nor the prices at which they were valued then high." At that time; were not you confusing your knowledge then with the knowledge which you had six weeks before. Had you gone into the matter six weeks before? A. I cannot be sure that I was not confusing, but my impression is, that I was not. President: "The advances on shares without collateral securities were not large." What did you mean then by "collateral security"? A. There was a distinction drawn between original advances on shares, and advances where shares were taken as what was called "collateral security." I observe that some of the witnesses before the Commission state their opinion, that this notion of a collateral security was a delusion. I must say that even at the present time, I cannot view it in that light. It appears to me that supposing the original advance is *bona fide*, not made upon shares, but that subsequently shares are taken, say, when a loan is rendered or anything of that sort, there is a substantial difference between the original advance upon shares as what is called, "collateral security."—Q. That was the case with only a few shares. Are you not aware that in the great majority of cases in which there were advances on shares, the transaction was this; in fact, all advances were made in one of three ways: it was either an advance upon a promissory note or a bond, without further security at all, or it was an advance upon a promissory note and shares by one agreement, or it was an advance upon a promissory note first, and afterwards when the Bank got themselves into a mess they took shares as another or collateral security? A. Yes. I was under the impression that it was only the second and the third kinds of advances which were in question, and regarding which I felt assured from what I had heard, that mischief had not been done.—Q. The words, "collateral, security," do not mean that it should be taken at any other time. If you take two securities at one time they are collateral to each other? A. Of course, but there is a substantial difference.—Q. But it is not conveyed by the word, "collateral"? A. No; but it depends upon the mind of the banker.—Q. You will find that at that time the transactions were almost all collateral in the sense of there being one transaction? A. But the impression was, that the shares were simply taken as additional security.—Q. That was the case, no doubt, but only after the Bank got into their troubles. There never was an advance of shares without a promissory note being given also. You are aware of that fact? A. That was my impression. President: The shares were always given either at the time, or after wards, when the Bank found that they could not get paid. On the same day that you wrote to the Governor-General, on the 22nd of June, he wrote to you a letter which is to be found at the bottom of the second page of the Blue-book, and he asked you a great number of questions. You will see what he says:—"The attention of the Governor-General in Council, having been lately drawn to the state of the affairs of the Bombay Bank, I am directed to request that with the permission of His Excellency the Governor, a full report may be furnished as soon as possible on the subject. The chief points on which information is desired, are the precise position of the Bank in regard to its assets and liabilities; what have been the losses of the Bank since the commencement of the present commercial crisis; what is the present amount of over-due bills; what proportion of their amount may be fairly expected to be realized; and what are the prospects of the Bank with reference to the bills which have yet to run." Then the third paragraph, goes on to say:—"The report should also state whether the provisions of the Bank charter have been duly observed, and at what rates advances have been generally made on shares of public companies, whether they were made on shares at the market price of the day, or at a par value of the shares, or at any fixed rate below that amount. The Governor-General in Council would hope that no loans have been made on the stock of public companies beyond par value of such stocks. If the provisions of the Bank charter as defined in Act 10 of 1863 have been departed from, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council desires to know whether the Government directors gave their assent to this departure, and if not, whether any representations were made by them on the subject to Government. In the former case the Government directors should be called upon to submit an explanation of their proceedings, copies of which should form enclosures of the report." The last paragraph is:—"I am to request that information on the points above referred, to may be furnished as soon as it can be obtained." There were seven enquiries there, as far as I can make them out; first, as to the assets and liabilities; secondly, what had been the losses of the Bank since the commencement of the crisis; thirdly, what was the amount of over-due bills; fourthly, what proportion of that amount might be fairly expected to be realized; fifthly, what were the prospects of the Bank with reference to the bills which had yet to run; sixthly, whether the provisions of the Bank charter had been violated; and seventhly, what had been the rates of advances on shares. How long at that time was a letter coming from Simla to Bombay? Witness: It might have been five or six days.—Q. You see a letter of the 29th of June on page 4, how came that letter to be written. What was the object of that letter to the Government directors of the Bank, was it on the receipt of this letter from the Governor-General? A. I should think not, otherwise it would have been specified.—Q. It does not specify it at all? A. The point will be cleared up by reference to the original letters. This letter of the Government of India must bear some endorsement upon it. President: We have not seen the original letter itself. You do not think that this letter of the 29th was another letter written with the view of carrying out the Governor-General's intentions? A. I think not. President: It certainly does not appear so; your letter of the 28th of June in the confidential appendix, can not be an answer to the Governor General's letter of the 22nd, because it could not have arrived at Poona at that time? A. No.—Q. Will you kindly tell us when that letter of the 22nd of June was ever answered? A. I will look through the papers and see, but unless it is specified in some of the letters I conclude that it is not answered. President: I will tell you how I think that you fancied that you answered that letter, but I may be wrong. If you turn to page 9 in the letter from Mr. Lushington to the Secretary of the Government of Bombay of the 13th of January 1866, and if you look at paragraph 5, you will find these words:—"But as the Government of India was subsequently assured, from a copy of a despatch addressed by your Government to the Secretary of State, No. 12, dated 8th July 1865, forwarded with your letter No. 619, dated 10th July," (which I cannot find) "that the liabilities of the Bank though unusually large were, not likely to result in heavy loss, and that its difficulties were for the most part of a temporary character: His Excellency in Council was unwilling to press for an immediate enquiry which might have given rise to unfounded alarm, and impaired the credit of the establishment. Six months have now elapsed since the critical state of the Bank called for the assistance of the Government as before mentioned, yet no substantial improvement seems to have taken place either in condition of its affairs or its management. Is it not clear from that letter, that what you did was to send the letter which you addressed to the Secretary of State of the 8th of July, which you will find at page 3 in the Blue Book, to the Governor-General? A. Yes; I may mention that every letter to the Secretary of State goes to the Go vernor-General; that is to say, a copy of it.—Q. Have you a copy of that letter of the 10th of July 1865, enclosing this letter to the Secretary of State? A. No; I have looked for it, and I have not been able to trace a copy as yet.—Q. I suppose that it was merely a formal cover? A. I cannot tell.—Q. Had this letter to the Secretary of State, which you sent to the Governor-General, the enclosures of the Government directors report. When you sent it to the Secretary of State, you sent the enclosure of the Government directors report of the 30th of June 1865. Did you do the same to the Governor-General? A. Of course. Every despatch which comes from the Secretary of State is sent complete with all enclosures to the Government of India. President: You must observe that this letter to the Secretary of State, of the 8th July 1865 enclosing, as it seems the report of the Government directors of the 30th June 1865, does not contain any answer to six out of the seven enquiries of the Governor-General in his letter of the 22nd June 1865. Witness: That is quite clear from a comparison of the letters now. At the time, I feel assured that we were under the impression that we had given all the information which could be obtained upon the subject, which was desired by the Government of India, and that we had given it to the Secretary of State, and to the Government of India.—Q. You gave the Secretary of State all that he asked for; he only asked about shares? A. That was all the information which could possibly be given. I draw that distinction, because from the first, it appeared to me that there was a difference between the view which the Government of India took, and the view which I, at the time took, regarding the amount of information which could be given in the form required by the Government of India, while the Bank was active and existing as a Bank still doing business.—Q. Did you at this early period object to give an answer to these other six questions? A. It did not occur to me. At the time when this letter was received, it struck me that the Government of India had asked for more than it was possible to give, while the Bank was doing business, but I felt no doubt that the very full information which it seemed to me that we had given to the Secretary of State, and which was contained in the report of the Government directors, would satisfy the Government of India, as far as it was possible, and that if we did not satisfy them, we should have an immediate reply, pointing out what further was required.—President: Let us turn to these two letters, and see what information they really did give to the Governor-General Take first the Government directors' report. You remark at the bottom of page 5, the words:—"The directors considered that the above measure would entail little or no risk, and would afford much relief at a time of considerable pressure. A total sum of 41,70,800 rupees was advanced on the security of the following shares—39 Back Bay shares value at par 1,95,000 rupees." Did you not know better than that, and that that was inaccurate? Witness: How do you mean "know better"? President. Had you not a letter in writing from the Secretary of the Bank before you, telling you that more had been advanced at that time? Witness. Certainly not; do I understand the question aright, that at the time when we were satisfied with the information given in paragraph 4, we had reason to know that the information was inaccurate? President: Yes. Witness: Certainly not. President: Did not you receive that letter on the 11th May 1865 from Mr. Chapman, and did it not enclose this letter from Mr. Robertson? (*handing the letter to the witness*) Witness: Mr. Robertson says:—"Besides the above, we hold a considerable number of Back Bay shares which we took into safe custody from those names who have large loans from the Bank on personal security, men such as Byramjee Hormusjee Cama, Cursetjee Furdoonjee, and Cursondass Madhowdass. These loans were not nominally granted on shares, but it was thought well to have some security collateral, independent of their personal standing. Several of these large loans, Premchund tells, me will be paid up very soon." I certainly did not un derstand that that involved any inaccuracy in the information received. President: It amounts to this, that there were 80 Back Bay shares of Cursondass Madhowdass, and that there were others making the whole number 154 Back Bay shares, instead of 39. Witness: That is apparent now; the question is, what would have been apparent then. President: I think that it was apparent then. Mr. Robertson's letter shows it to you; it was upon the express understanding that they were to be security for those loans? Witness: Yes; but the loans had been given on other security. President: But the money was advanced upon the security of those shares? Witness: That was not apparent to us at the time, and I feel sure that it never struck Mr. Chapman in that way. President: He could not explain it certainly when we asked him about it. Here is Mr. Robertson's letter which shows the practice, and that there were other shares. Witness: I daresay that they had been doing it, but we had no reason whatever, so far as I can see, to believe that the official statement in paragraph 4 of the Government directors report of the 30th June 1865, was inaccurate. President I do not suppose that you deliberately mis stated the thing, but was not that letter sufficient to have put you on enquiry, and ought you not to have discovered the real state of the thing. Witness: That is a matter of opinion. There are a great many things (this is not the only one) which I ought to have known if I had taken more pains to enquire.—Q. Again, the Government direct rs say:—"The above shares were taken as collateral security." I want to know exactly what you understand by that, you repeat it in your letter to the Secretary of State, I think? A. I thought that I had explained it before, namely; that there seemed to me to be a substantial difference between advances when the shares were original security, and advances when they were collateral security. A large loan is due from a man to whom money has been advanced, and you become anxious for the payment of your loan, and believing that you will improve your security you take over the shares.—Q. That would have been better expressed by the words, "further security." Did you at that time, ask yourself this question:—to what the shares were collateral? A. I understand it in the sense which I have explained.—Q. What was the security collateral to? A. It was collateral to other security.—Q. Did you ever ask what security? A. Certainly not; I was satisfied with the belief that these shares were taken as a further security upon money which had been advanced, and regarding the repayment of which, the directors were getting anxious.—Q. Were you aware at that time, that the directors were in the habit of advancing sums of money to a single person upon a mere promissory note without other security? A. Certainly not.—Q. Then it is said in the Government directors report:—"All advances of this description have for some time past been discontinued." What was your understanding of that expression? A. The plain meaning deduced from it, namely; that advances of this description had for some time past been discontinued.—Q. Could you have understood that they had been discontinued for 20 days, and would that have satisfied you? A. I cannot speak to the particular period. President: That is the explanation which we received, we found that there were those advances on shares in May and June, and when we put that before the directors, they said that they meant that there had been none since the 10th of June. Witness: My impression was, that the warning which I had communicated to the Government directors through Mr. Chapman, had led to the discontinuance of the practice. President: This report of the Government directors was enclosed in a letter to the Secretary of State, that is, at page 3 of the Blue-book. In the 2nd paragraph, you say:—"A note showing the latest market value of the securities referred to is also annexed. There can be little doubt that their value will speedily improve, but to what extent no judgment can be formed till the present crisis is over." Upon what authority did you make that statement? A. On the general impression that we had seen the worst of the crisis, and that matters must improve. President: In paragraph 4, it is stated:—"You will observe that the current rumours as to the extent of advances on Back Bay shares were much exaggerated"? A. Yes.—Q. With the light which you have now, was that the case? A. I should say not, but the statement was made in all good faith, according to the best information which we had at the time.—Q. You say in the next paragraph:—"We will reserve our opinion as to the conduct of the elected directors of the Bank, till we are in po ssession of the more complete information regarding the management of the Bank during the past year, which we expect will be supplied by the promised report of the Government directors, merely observing at present, that we do not find any evidence of undue favour shown to any particular interest in making these advances." What report do you refer to there? A. I will see whether I can find that out. President: We have a report of the 31st of March 1866 that was not the one which you referred to, because it was done in reference to another letter of the Governor-General. Witness: Yes.—Q. Had you then the intention of complying with the request of the Governor General in his letter of the 22nd of June 1865? A. I think it probable that this report which we forwarded was one in reply to a call which we had made upon the letter of the Secretary of State, and that we expected a second report upon the letter from the Government of India; and that that is what we referred to, but that is a mere probability.—Q. You never obtained that report? A. I think that there was a report, which we considered was equivalent to it, from Mr. Harrison. President: That was long afterwards, that was after your second report. I suspect that what was passing through your mind, was that you did intend to answer that letter then. Then, again, look at paragraph 10 of the same despatch:—"At present all monetary affairs in Bombay are in such an uncertain state, that it is not likely the Government directors will be able for another fortnight or three weeks, to form any reliable estimate as to the probable ultimate losses which will fall on the Bank." Witness: Yes.—Q. That report seems never to have been given? A. Not within a fortnight. I should mention that I have a very distinct recollection that at this time, the crisis was so much prolonged beyond what anybody expected that we put off, from day to day, pressing for reports as to what was the then value of securities, because we were assured that it was impossible to state what the ultimate out-turn was likely to be. President: My own impression, after a careful study of these papers is, that this letter of the 22nd of June was never answered, except by sending the Governor General a copy of the letter of the 8th of July, and the enclosure of the report of the 30th of June. Witness: Is the letter which was not answered dated the 29th of June? President: No; I refer to the letter of the 22nd of June of the Governor-General at page 2. That letter was never answered except by sending to the Governor-General, the letter to the Secretary of State of the 8th of July enclosing in it, the report of the 30th of June? Witness: I will see whether I can find any answer. President: In your letter to the Secretary of State for India at page 3, you say in paragraph 6:—"It is but justice to the present Government directors, Messrs. Chapman and Lushington, to note that they joined the Bank direction only on the 8th March 1865, and that they were naturally at first obliged to rely much on the judgment and experience of their elected colleagues. We have reason to believe that they took an early opportunity of giving the weight of their influence at the Board of directors, to support the more prudent procedure which has lately characterised the management of the Bank"? A. Yes.—Q. I have no doubt that they did attempt to do so at that time, but why should you say:—"The more prudent procedure which has lately characterised the management of the Bank"? A. Because we believed that there had been imprudent procedure before.—Q. Did you think that there was any great amendment, are you aware of any change in in the system? A. The change to which I refer was, in this way:—when Mr. Chapman became Secretary to Government, and ex-officio director of the Bank, I had a great deal of conversation with him on the Bank question. He was new to the work, and had had no previous practical experience whatever to guide him. He was at that time living with Mr. Ellis, a member of Council, who had been, as I understood, an extremely efficient director of the Bank in very safe times; and I recollect suggesting to Mr. Chapman that Mr. Ellis would give him excellent advice as to his duties as Government director. He then informed me of what I became aware of for the first time, that the old rules which Mr. Ellis had always, until he became a member of the Government, supposed to be still in force, namely, the bye-laws of the Bank, had been very much changed, and that they no longer afforded the same security which they did in Mr. Ellis's time. Upon that Mr. Chapman paid particular attention to his duties as Bank director, and informed himself as far as he could, of what was going on. He communicated to me from time to time, and I felt a conviction that both he and Mr. Lushington were exerting themselves, and exerting themselves with effect, with the aid of the new directors. The directors had been very much changed in the preceding few months, and I felt that they had been exerting themselves with very good effect to introduce a new system of management. Before we leave that subject, may I ask your attention to my letters in what is called the confidential appendix of the 10th of June, and the 15th of June, to the Governor-General, and to the postscript at page 8:—"I write in this form, to avoid as far as possible, the risk of the very serious state of affairs becoming prematurely known, but you will, I trust, deal with what I have written as though it were officially before you. Mr. Ellis, the only other member of Government now in the country, has gone carefully into the question, and agrees with me, that there is no other apparent means to prevent the Bank stopping, and to avert the consequent public bankruptcy, but to advance in case of need, to the extent and in the manner above described." I considered that in those letters, I had put the Governor-General in possession of a very considerable amount of information.—Q. This letter of the 15th of June, is all about the currency; it does not answer his questions at all? A. Possibly not; because there were many of those questions which it appeared to me could not be answered in the form in which the Governor-General asked them. —Q. You did not answer the letter of the 22nd of June, except by sending the letter to the Secretary of State and its enclosure? A. Yes; and by writing in this form. President: But I do not see that it answered the question. There is then the Secretary of State's letter to you, of the 8th of September 1865, paragraph 11, at page 8 of the Blue-book:—"But, above all, it should be the care of the Government directors to watch very closely the proceedings of the Bank, in order, so far as their influence extends, to prevent any repetition of imprudent management, and any disposition on the part of their colleagues, to depart from sound principles, should be forthwith communicated to you, in order that you may take such measures as may seem to you to be necessary in reference thereto." Witness: Yes.—Q. Did you issue any instructions to the Government directors upon the receipt of that letter? A. This letter came in the course of business, into the hands of one of the Government directors, and I have no doubt that it was seen by the others. I cannot be sure of that.—Q. Did you issue any instructions to the Government directors on the receipt of that letter? A. Not special instructions. President: Then comes the letter to you of the 13th of January 1866, at page 9, paragraph 4, in which the Governor-General says:—"The Governor-General in Council in giving sanction to the exceptional support thus accorded by the Government of Bombay, was actuated by the consideration of the novel and extraordinary impulse imported to commercial enterprise during the preceding year, and of the confusion which had arisen from the sudden cessation and collapse of speculations which had been entered into without regard either to commercial prudence or responsibility. Under these circumstances, the Governor-General in Council urged upon the Government of Bombay the expediency of immediately instituting an investigation into the affairs of the Bank, in my letter No. 958, dated 22nd June last. But as the Government of India was subsequently assured, from a copy of a despatch addressed by your Government to the Secretary of State No. 12, dated 8th July 1865, forwarded with your letter No. 619, dated 10th July; that the liabilities of the Bank, though unusually large, were not likely to result in heavy loss, and that its difficulties were for the most part of a temporary character; His Excellency in Council was unwilling to press for an immediate enquiry which might have given rise to unbounded alarm, and impaired the credit of the establishment. Six months have now elapsed since the critical state of the Bank called for the assistance of this Government as before mentioned. Yet no substantial improvement seems to have taken place either in the condition of its affairs, or its management. Notwithstanding the great demand in Bombay;" and so on. Then paragraph 10 is:—"On a full consideration of all these circumstances, and with special advertence to the Secretary of State's financial despatch of 2nd June," (that is the letter on the first page of the Blue-book) "addressed to your Government, the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that an examination into the affairs of the Bank should no longer be delayed, with a view to such a revision of the terms upon which its business has been, and is conducted, as may seem expedient. The Governor-General in Council considers that the examination should comprise an investigation, not only into the assets and floating liabilities of the Bank, but into its transactions especially during the past six months. In conclusion, His Excellency in Council hopes that a full report on the several matters above referred to will be furnished by your Government without unnecessary delay." Witness: Yes. President: Shortly after that, you received another letter from the Government of India, which is at page 10 of the Blue-book, and paragraph 4 of which is:—"I am desired strongly to recommend to His Excellency the Governor, the adoption of similar vigilance in regard to the affairs of the Bank of Bombay, and to remark that in the opinion of the Governor-General in Council, the pursuance of such a course would effectually check the recurrence of difficulties similar to those under which the Bank of Bombay has been lately struggling. Loans and other banking business would be more cautiously conducted; the purchase of bills on Calcutta would not be sanctioned when, as in a late case, every available rupee in the Bank was necessary to meet local demands; and lastly, the interest and control of the local Government in the financial affairs of the Presidency would be advisedly increased to the general advantage of the State." Did you on the receipt of that letter, issue any orders to the Government directors? Witness: I have no recollection of any, beyond communica ting these letters. President: Will you now turn to the report of the Government directors of the 31st of March 1866 in answer to this enquiry. The Governor-General writes on the 13th of January; and on the 31st of March, at page 30, you will find the report of the Government directors on the Bank. Witness: Yes. President: It appears from another minute of yours to which I have not referred, that you seemed to understand the Government of India as charging the Bank of Bombay with having produced the crisis of December. I do not see that. Witness: Such was my understanding certai nly at the time.—Q. At the end of paragraph 4, of the report of the 31st of March 1866, you will find the following statement:—"The Bank was at this epoch in no difficulty as regards its own affairs." Did not that strike you as a very strong statement? A. No; it appeared to me to be borne out by the facts which were stated, that if the Government business connected with the currency, had been prudently conducted the Bank itself would have been in no difficulty. President: The currency business is another matter. If you will look at the next paragraph but two, you will see that it says:—"That the Bank employed its capital in a very imprudent manner, and instead of having it available in the hour of need, the great bulk of it was locked up in loans and advances to parties from whom it was hopeless to expect punctual payment." That is quite true. Witness: That is quite true. President: Again, at paragraph 14, it is stated:—"On a careful review of the whole circumstances, we have come to the conc lusion that the currency crisis in December last was in no way attributable to the Bank, or its management." I cannot see that the Governor-General ever said that it was:—"In expressing this opinion we must add, that although the position of the Bank on this occasion, was not one of danger as regards itself, yet it was not as strong as either the Government or the public had a right to expect." Then it goes on to say:—"It ought not only to have been in a position of unquestionable security as regards its own affairs, but to have been able to render material and direct aid to the Government. That it was not able to do so, was owing to the greater portion of its capital being unavailable in consequence of the imprudence that characterised the management prior to April last, and not in consequence of anything that subsequently took place. Witness: Yes. President: I think that those statements themselves almost contradict the statement that—"the Bank was at this epoch in no difficulty as regards its own affairs." At that very moment, the 31st of March, I should say that more than half the capital was lost. Witness: They were speaking of Dec.—Q. I do not think that you are answerable for the Government director's reports, but I only ask you whether it did not strike you, in forwarding this report, that there was a discrepancy from the statement of the Bank, that the Bank was in no difficulty as regarded its own affairs? A. No. My impression was, that the Bank could just pay its way, and no more.—Q. Were not you aware that the great bulk of the Bank's capital:—"was locked up in loans and advances to parties from whom it was hopeless to expect punctual payment"? A. Yes; that was the reason why the Bank could not aid a large customer like the Government when it wanted assistance.—Q. Previously to April, 1865, the report goes on to speak in paragraphs six and seven, of the reckless conduct of the directors? A. Yes.—Q. It says that the consequence was, that the great bulk of the capital was locked up? A. Yes.—Q. These statements were general and vague, but very strong. Did not you think that that was a sort of case which required some independent searching enquiry? A. Decidedly. I was always of that opinion.—Q. At that time? A. At that time; I considered that a most searching inquiry was required. There were two points which occurred to me upon it, namely, as to the time, and as to the agency. As to the time, it appeared to me that we should only make matters much worse by making such an enquiry as you have now made, into the way in which the money of the Bank had been employed; and as to the agency, I felt quite convinced that we had not in Bombay the means of making a thorough and satisfactory inquiry, an enquiry which would satisfy the shareholders, and satisfy the Government. I mean as a permanent and final report. President: Directly that the Governor-General gets that statement, if you will look to pages 28 and 29 of the Blue-book, you will see the view which he takes of it. He says in his letter of the 13th of July:—"The embarrassments of the Bank are wholly attributable to abuse of powers which ought not to have been conferred upon it by charter, and which are not possessed by the Banks of Bengal and Madras. The Government of Bombay proposes immediately to remedy this grievous error, by a legislative enactment and this, with the recent removal by the Secretary of State, of the restrictions on the qualifications for direction which unduly narrowed the field of selection for that office, will, it is hoped, ensure sounder management in the future. But the Governor-General in Council observes with regret, that notwithstanding the discontinuance by the Bank for the last ten months of business of an objectionable character, it has not yet retrieved its position, and that the recurrence of a commercial crisis has rendered it necessary for the Government of Bombay to come forward, with renewed promises of aid, in a telegram to the Accountant General, to the following effect:—'If need require, Government authorise you to support the Bank with all Government balances and other available resources.' The Governor-General in Council, though fully sharing in the desire of the Bombay Government to uphold the credit of the Bank, cannot suffer the revenues of India to be indefinitely pledged to the support of an establishment, of the affairs of which he is kept in ignorance. The information furnished by the report of the directors contains little more than is to be found in the general statements of assets and liabilities published in the newspapers. That there may be no further misapprehension on this subject, the statement which His Excellency the Governor-General in Council requires is comprised in the following particulars:—1. The banks, firms, and individuals to which the Bank is under advances. 2. The dates and amounts of such advances. 3. The securities upon which they have been made, and the sums advanced upon each security." He demand a minute enquiry. Then he goes on in paragraph 16, to say:—"The Bank should have no hesitation in furnishing these particulars, which, having regard to the peculiar circumstances at present affecting the relations of the Government of India and the Bank; His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is bound to demand." That is the view which he took of the matter. Witness: Yes. President: It does not seem to be the view which you took of it. I wish you to explain that. Witness: There were two reasons why I did not consider that we should immediately comply with his call. President: I am asking you why, when you got this report of the 31st of March, you did not institute an inquiry which, I am quite sure, would have frightened you in an hour? Witness: Very possibly; I had had nothing else to do than to go down to the Bank. President: I did not mean to say that you yourself would have gone down, but that some really independent party would have done so? A. I can only say that I looked about me on every side, and I could see nobody who was likely to do better than the Government directors and the then directors of the Bank were doing, either to work the Bank as it then stood, or to let us know, when the time for a more searching enquiry came, as to the exact losses and the causes of them.—Q. Did it not strike you that it would be advantageous to have some outsider to took into that matter? A. You will find that I mentioned that point in a letter to the Governor-General. I got some excellent advice upon the subject from a perfectly independent gentleman, in a letter from Mr. Rulli, a very eminent Greek merchant, and he suggested the appointment of three competent independent gentlemen. President: That will come afterwads. I want you to confine yourself to the report of the 31st of March, I find that you wrote a minute upon that, on the 29th of May 1866, which is at page 41. Look at paragraph 5, you there say:—"The first question that suggests itself as regards that period;" (that is, a period ending in April, 1865,)" is whether any of the ex-directors of 1864 and 1865 can be individually held responsible to Government for the bad management of the Bank during that period; and here I confess I cannot see my way to any pratical action. Whatever opinions we may form, either of the general management of the Bank, or of the conduct of individuals, I find nothing tangible in the shape of impropriety, or illegality which we could charge against the collective body; and if we had, I do not see how we could fix the responsibility for it, either on the Government directors as a body, or any one of them." I would ask upon that, whether it did not strike you that a further, and more minute enquiry, by some persons outside the Bank itself, would have detected both the impropriety and the illegality? Witness: I had no doubt that a very searching enquiry made by persons outside the Bank with powers such as you now possess, would have elicited the entire truth; but by any sort of enquiry for which we had the means at the time, I did not see that anything could be done to fix the responsibility according to the information which I then had.—Q. Do you not think that it was taking rather a narrow view of the matter, to say that the first question was as to fixing the resp onsibility on certain directors. Was not there a very grave question as to the solvency of the Bank? A. I had not a doubt at that time that the Bank was perfectly solvent. I was perfectly satisfied in my own mind with the estimates which we then had of the probable losses.—Q. Notwithstanding the strong language of paragraphs 6, 7, and 14 of the Government director's report? A. They seemed to me to point to resources being locked up and requiring a long time to realize; but I felt that each of these successive reports, as they came in, told us the worst which we could then know by any enquiry which we had the means at our command of making. —Q. Did it not in plain language tell you, that these directors had been guilty of most extraordinary and most reckless conduct, (the language which is used) and did not the propriety of some investigation as to that matter strike you? A. Certainly; I never doubted that when the time came, and when the agency came, enquiry ought to be made. President: Looking through this minute, I find another thing which I am surprised never struck you. Was not the conduct of the secretaries very important. Witness? Which secretaries? President: Both of them. Mr. Blair and Mr. Robertson? Witness: Certainly; but at that time I had a considerable distrust of Mr. Blair's judgment and management, but I had the fullest belief in Mr. Robertson's soundness, and that he was doing his best and had done his best. Till a period very long subsequent to this, I had not the slightest reason to suspect either of the secretaries of having forgotten what was due to the Bank, or of having done less than his best, according to his ability, for the Bank while he was Secretary.—Q. Did not the statements in paragraphs 6, 7, and 14 of the report, lead you to think that the system must be very wrong which would allow such a state of things? A. Certainly.—Q. Then surely some enquiry into that system and how far it was carried on, would have been useful, would it not? A. I can only ask the Commission to consider that when you are in the height of a storm, it is not the time to enquire whether the captain was wise in putting to sea, or whether some better seaman might not have avoided the ship getting into danger. During the whole of the period to which this correspondence refers, the Bank was in almost daily danger of breaking down altogether, and in the belief that that was as great a calamity as could be added to those which had already overtaken the place, I considered that our chief business was to do our best to keep the Bank active as a Bank, and I never gave up the hope of being able to do so, until just as I was leaving Bombay. President: That is just my opinion; that you were really too sanguine, and tried to put the best face on matters too long. Witness: It is quite possible. I can only say that I was convinced at the time, that we had on the reports before us, the worst which could be said of the Bank, especially the report of Mr. Hunter and Dr. Harrison. There is a question connected with what the Government directors might have done, and I wish to draw your attention to the minute of Colonel Marriott. He was not a professional banker, but he had written a pamphlet in the worst time of the Bombay speculation, and he seemed to me to be a man upon whom we could thoroughly rely as a man of judgment, and we put him in, but we were obliged to allow him to be superseded by an officer, of whom at the time we knew nothing. I mention that merely to show that when we did see a good man available, we did our best to get hold of him. President: I will call your attention to paragraph 9 of your minute at page 42:—"With the management of the Bank during the difficulties between April and July, 1865, I am not aware that any particular fault has been found; the course pursued by the Bank was prudent and forbearing." That strikes one as a most extraordinary statement. On the 12th of April 1865, the directors passed the resolution to lend on shares, which you have been yourself so much condemning? Witness: I should have excepted that. I should probably have said:—"between May and June."—Q. Were you not aware, that between April and July, the loans upon promissory notes alone were still continued? A. Certainly not. At the time when I wrote these minutes, I believed that a very prudent course of management had been commenced.—Q. You were not aware that during that very time, loans still continued to be made upon shares? A. With the exception of what I have learned since the Commission has sat, I was not aware of it. President: Then you say:—"A period of respite followed between July and the crisis in November and December last, and it is objected by the Government of India to the Bank's management, that the Bank did not gather up its resources;" and so on. Then you say at the beginning of paragraph 12:—"Upon the whole, I think, the Bank must be acquitted of any charge of mismanagement during the period in question." Are you aware that the prices of shares rose very much in August and September, 1865? A. I do not recollect any particular rise. We were during all that period, under the impression that better times were coming, and that we had seen the worst of the crisis.—Q. Were you aware that the Secretary was pressed to realize those securities, and that, if so, the Bank might then have got out with much less loss? Witness: Certainly not. I watched the state of the market with great anxiety, and, upon the whole, my impression was, that there was reason to hope that the worst of the crisis was over, and that it was wise not to press more than the Bank could help, which I understood was generally the policy of the Bank.—Q. Did it not occur to you, that one reason for that policy might be that the secretaries and the directors of banks had shares themselves largely, and did not wish to glut the market? A. I had no knowledge of the kind, and I had no suspicion of it.—Q. With respect to the policy of forbearance, I suppose that you read the report of the Government directors of the 31st March 1866 with very great care? A. Yes.—Q. You remark that they say that 321 lacs were outstanding in June? A. Yes.—Q. Then they say that 79 lacs were realized, and that 126 lacs still remained outstanding. Did you enquire what had become of the other 116 lacs? A. No. President. If that had been enquired into, you would have found that those 116 lacs were renewed, and that a large portion of them, though nominally current, were very much in the same position as outstanding; that they were renewed over and over again, and that payment could not be got. You did not enquire as to the remaining 116 lacs, and under what circumstances they were renewed? A. No; it did not strike me that there was a necessity for it.—Q. Again, at paragraph 20 of that report at page 32, the Government directors say:—"And we have reason to believe that the directors would have no objection to its being expunged;" (that is, the power to advance upon shares), "as for the last ten months this power has never been made use of." Did you enquire at all, upon what authority the Government directors made these statement? A. No; I concluded that they made them from the knowledge which they acquired in the Bank. —Q. It did not occur to you to ask whether they had just gone to the secretary, and had got the information from him? A. I made no enquiry about it. I relied upon the circumstance that they would make the best enquiry which they could.—Q. Can you explain why this report, which is dated 31st of March 1866, was not sent to the Governor-General until the 16th of June. He had sent four reminders for it at different times. On the 19th of June, he says:—"Meanwhile His Excellency in Council awaits with anxiety, the long-expected report on the affairs of the Bank;" and the transmission of the report was delayed until the 16th of June; his last reminder is dated 19th of June 1866. Considering that he had no answer to his first letter, how is it that there was such very great delay in sending this information to the Governor-General? A. The cause is traceable from the endorsements upon the original papers. I could not speak as to that.—Q. The report is dated the 31st of March 1866. Your minute upon it is on the 29th of May; then there is a minute by Mr. Ellis, dated the 11th of June? A. Yes.—Q. And then it goes off till the 16th. There was a very considerable delay in the forwarding of that letter, was there not? A. I think not an unusual delay, considering the magnitude of the question involved, and the necessity, for deliberation and writing upon it.

President: We now come to another application by the Governor-General to you, for information with respect to Mr. Brown's release. The letter of the Governor-General, as to Mr. Brown release, is dated the 10th of February 1866. You will find it at page 113 of the Blue-book:—"Sir. I am directed to state that the Government of India has been furnished with a copy of a letter dated 23rd January 1866, from the Secretary of the Bank of Bombay, to the Government directors of the Bank, relating to Mr. F. L. Brown's release, but that the information therein contained is not sufficient. The Governor-General in Council, desires to be informed precisely; what securities were offered by Mr. F. L. Brown, and accepted by the Bank, what was their par value, and their market value at the time the loan was made to Mr. Brown; at what rate they were then valued by the Bank; also what is their present value. Further; the Government desire to know what will be the precise loss on the Bank's transactions with Mr. Brown. I have, &c., (Signed) E. H. Lushington, Secretary to the Government of India. Fort William, 10th February, 1866." It appears that that report was stated 10th March 1866, and was not sent to the Government of India till the 16th March 1867, between twelve and thirteen months after the enquiry? A. That delay struck me, and I can only speak to the best of my recollection as to the reason of the delay. It was, as far as I recollect this. This case of Mr. Brown had struck me before we heard from the Government of India upon the subject, and I had directed enquiry to be made as to the reason of his release. When we received the call from the Government of India. I think that we were under the impression that the Government of India had also written to the Accountant General, or was in other ways making enquiry on the subject, but I kept those papers by me in my own office for some time, in the expectation of seeing an opening for further enquiry. The utmost that we could get at the time was, that Mr. Brown had been pressed as far as there appeared any prospect of getting anything out of him, and that he had been let off instead of being further pushed. That seemed to me a most unsatisfactory conclusion, and I recollect hearing in a very casual gossiping manner, that there were reasons which had induced some of the other creditors of Mr. Brown to be more than usually forbearing in his case. I thought it possible that we might obtain some information on the subject, and I kept those papers much longer than I otherwise should have done.—Q. It is clear, as a matter of fact, that the letter was not sent until the 16th March 1867? A. Certainly; but I believe that in that case, the blame of the delay rests entirely with me, as far as I can judge. The papers were with me the whole time.—Q. Did you look at the tabular statement which was prepared on that occasion, did you examine it at all carefully? A. In what respect? Did it not strike you as very singular, that not a single date was given in an important paper like that? A. Yes; it struck me as most unsatisfactory.—Q. Then if such was the case, why did not you have more particulars given? A. I enquired what more could be learnt about it, and I was assured that these very meagre facts were all which could be ascertained.—Q. The ,absence of dates did not strike you as a suspicious matter in a document coming from business-men about a matter of business? A. No; certainly not.—Q. The gossiping information which you say you had with regard to Mr. Brown's loans, I suppose was the same as I have had, namely: that numerous bank managers were indebted to him for obligations, and for that reason they wished to let him pass as quickly as possible, and did not wish to have any exposure? A. Yes; he was merely a cloak to others, and did they not wish him to be personally pressed; no names were mentioned to me.

President: I must next call your attention to the Governor-General's letter of the 13th of July 1866, and to paragraphs 16 of that letter at pages 28 and 29 of the Blue-book. You will find that he demanded three things. It is said:—"That there may be no further misapprehensions on this subject, the statement which His Excellency the Governor-General requires is comprised in the following particulars:—1. The banks, firms, and individuals to which the Banks is under advances. 2. The dates and amounts of such advances. 3. The securities upon which they have been made, and the sums advanced upon each security. The Bank should have no hesitation in furnishing these particulars, which having regard to the peculiar circumstances at present affecting the relations of the Government of India and the Bank, His excellency the Governor-General in Council is bound to demand." What did you do on the receipt of that letter? Witness: Do not the papers give information? President: No; not until the 22nd of October. We find no papers except four reminders from the Governor-General, that you had not answered his questions, namely, on the 23rd of August, the 13th of September, the 3rd of October, and the 26th of October. Can you recollect what you did? Witness: Unless I can see the original papers I cannot tell exactly. President: Will you look at page 57 of the Blue-book, here is the first reminder of the Governor-General; that is, when he had received unformation that the losses of the Bank were £850,000. In paragraph 3 of that letter, he says:—"In the absence of a sufficiently detailed explanation of the affairs of the Bank, as required by my letter of the

ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL OF 25TH DECEMBER.

YESTERDAY morning, about 9 o'clock, the P. & O. Company's s.s. *Sumatra*, Captain C. A. White, arrived in harbour, bringing the English Mail of the 25th ult. The *Sumatra* left Suez at 3-57 P.M. on the 3rd inst., arrived at Aden on the 9th inst. at 10-55 P.M., and sailed thence for Bombay at 10-20 A.M. on the 10th. The following passengers arrived by the *Sumatra* :—

From Southampton—Dr. and Mrs. Rogers, Messrs. J. Keny, F. O. Hall, J. Watson.

From Marseilles—The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Westropp and Mrs. Westropp, Dr. and Mrs. Fergusson, Mrs. Balmain, Miss Spring, Messrs T. Chisholm, Otto, Fiedler, and J. G. White.

From Aden—Mr. Allen; and Jetha Damjee.

The "Sumatra" on leaving Suez on the 3rd inst. passed the B. and B. S. N. Co.'s s.s. "Ganga" at 5 P.M., steering for Suez; on the 5th inst., exchanged signals with the P. & O. s.s. "Columbian," at 9 P.M., steering to the N. W.; on the 9th inst., passed the P. & O. s.s. "Surat" at 9-20 A.M., the s.s. "Baroda" at 8 P.M., and H. M. Transport "Malabar" at 8. P.M., all bound for Suez. On the 13th inst., she passed the P. & O. s.s. "Carnatic" at 11 A.M., for Aden and Suez.

The "Sumatra" experienced for the first eighteen hours after leaving Suez a northerly wind, and from that time to Aden strong head winds and heavy seas; from Aden to Bombay, light head winds and moderate seas.

Extracts from the English papers will be found on our fourth page.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN BENGAL—SERIOUS EFFECTS IN CACHAR.

THE earthquake which occurred in Bengal on the afternoon of the 10th instant appears from the following reports to have been much more serious than was at first supposed :—

Silchar, 10-30 A.M., January 11th.—Fearful earthquake here. New pucca-godown, bungalow, and all station houses down.

Cachar, Monday morning.—Terrible earthquake yesterday. All bungalows down. Bazaar engulfed.

Further intelligence from Cachar reports the total destruction of Moran and Company's pucka teahouses at Changoori, and of the bungalow, teahouse, and pucka-godowns at the head-quarters of the Eastern Bengal Tea Company. The other buildings there and at the out-stations have also been much damaged. On the Madoora Tea estate the earthquake has destroyed four houses.

Gowhatty, 12th January, 11-25 hours.—Severe earthquake here at five on Sunday evening. Felt at Nowgong most severely. Buildings much damaged.

The earthquake seems thus to have been severest in the direction of Cachar and Assam. But it was felt a long way west of Calcutta also, for (as we learn from the *Delhi Gazette*) a slight shock was felt at Dinapore at 4-15 P.M. on the 10th instant. The motion was from north to south, and the shock lasted for about thirty seconds.

The *Englishman* has received letters regarding the earthquake as felt at Monghyr, Burrakur, Berhampore, Kooshtea, Magoorah and Diamond Harbour. At all these places the shocks appear to have been about as severe as those experienced at Calcutta and to have lasted for a considerable period. One correspondent at Kooshtea, who consulted his watch, estimates the duration at two minutes and ten seconds. Regarding the time of the occurrence and the direction of the undulations there is, as usual, too much discrepancy between the different accounts to form any satisfactory conclusion. It is probable, however, that the direction would not be the same at all the places mentioned, but that the undulations spread out in circles from a central point, and that, allowing for local causes of interference, their direction at any given place would be that of a line drawn to it from the centre. Supposing the centre of disturbance to have been near Cachar, the shock should, at Monghyr, appear to come more from the east, and at Calcutta more from the north.

Cachar, remarks the *Friend of India*, is on the line of volcanic action which, stretching from the Eastern Himalayas, runs down the Burmah coast, where there are several extinct volcanoes, to the Eastern Archipelago so famous for volcanic phenomena on a terrible scale.

LORD MAYO'S ARRIVAL AND INSTALLATION AT CALCUTTA.

THE Calcutta papers received yesterday contain detailed accounts of the landing of the Earl and Countess of Mayo at Calcutta on the 12th instant, but it is [illegible] and we have already given a sketch of the arrangements it was intended to follow. The following passages, however, from the *Englishman*, are interesting :—

"As soon as the cortege approached Government House, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal descended the grand stair-case to receive the Earl of Mayo, whilst Sir John Lawrence and the members of his Government advanced to the top of the steps for the same purpose. On reaching this party there was a slight delay caused by the usual introductions being gone through, and then Sir John led Lady Mayo into her new home, while the Governor General, surrounded by the members of his Government, proceeded to the Council room. Here was assembled a large crowd composed of members of all classes of the community, and in their presence the Earl of Mayo took his seat as President of the Executive Council of India. Around the table were seated Sir William Mansfield, Mr. Noble Taylor, Sir Henry Durand, Mr. Maine, Mr. Strachey, and Sir Richard Temple. Mr. E. C. Bayley, Secretary in the Home Department, having received the commission granted by Her Majesty to the Earl of Mayo, read it aloud, and then His Lordship, taking the Bible, swore to govern India faithfully and justly, and, again, to bear true allegiance to Her Majesty. These oaths he read from a printed form, which he signed and then passed on for signature to the members of the Government. After this form had been gone through, Earl Mayo commenced his career as Governor General by proposing that so long as Sir John Lawrence should remain in India he should receive all the honours due to Her Majesty's Viceroy. The Council having concurred, the ceremony of installation was over—a ceremony which ended the career of the foremost Indian officer of this century, and commenced, what, we all trust, may be the building up of a great reputation for his successor." To which we say Amen!

The *Friend of India* narrates the following amusing anecdote in connection with the landing :—

"The effect of his title on the Asiatic mind may be imagined from a remark made by a Bengalee to his companion at Chandpal Ghat in his own vernacular—'This is a real Lord.'"

A *Gazette of India* (Extraordinary) of the 11th inst. publishes the following proclamation :—

"Whereas the Right Hon'ble Richard Southwell Bourke, Earl of Mayo, Viscount Mayo of Monycrower Baron Naas of Naas, K. P., has been appointed by Her, Majesty to be her Viceroy and Governor General of India, and has assumed the said office, the said appointment is hereby notified, and it is proclaimed that the said Right Hon'ble the Earl of Mayo, Viceroy and Governor General of India, has this day taken the usual oaths and his seat in His Excellency's Council."

The same *Gazette* contains the following :—"His Excellency the Governor General in Council directs that all distinctions and honors which were paid to His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Sir John Laird Mair Lawrence, Baronet, G.C.S.I., G.C.B., when holding the office of Governor General of India, shall be continued to His Excellency during his stay in this Presidency."

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPECTED TO VISIT SIND.

THE denizens of Sind (writes the *Sindian*) will be delighted to hear that they are shortly to be honoured with the presence of the most popular member of the Royal Family of Great Britain, next to Her Majesty the Queen. We learn from the most reliable authority that His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Kurrachee on his return from his eastern tour. This is no canard, as many may be inclined to receive it, but it is now on the programme of His Royal Highness' official card. As an indication of the approaching event, we believe we are not wrong in stating that great alterations and improvements to Government House here are to be commenced immediately, and the Executive Engineer has received full instructions from Sir William Merewhether to expedite the work so that it may be completed in ample time for the Duke of Edinburgh's reception. This unanticipated honour has taken the provincial authorities entirely by surprise, but now that they have received timely notice of the approaching event, we feel confident that one and all will put their "shoulder to the wheel," to render the Royal reception one of the most successful.

THE WORKING MEN AND MR. REVERDY JOHNSON.—The true voice of working men is making itself hear in reference to the slight lately offered in their name to Mr. Reverdy Johnson. On Saturday evening, Dec. 19, two thousand workmen of South London repudiated the course taken at the instigation of members of the Reform League, and declared that they had not "been in any way consulted in the matter." They have appointed a deputation to wait upon Mr. Johnson with this message.

THE VICEREGAL COUNCIL—SIR JOHN LAWRENCE'S FAREWELL.

AT the meeting of the Viceregal Council last Monday morning all the members were present. Among the visitors were His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces; Mr. R. H. Davies, Chief Commissioner of Oudh; Maharajah Sir Maun Singh; Rajah Furzund Ali and Tujjumul Hossein, Talookdars of Oudh; the Oudh Agent of the Rajah of Kuppoorthullah; and Sirdars Bikrama and Sucheyt Singh. Mr. Shaw Stewart, we observe, obtained leave to introduce a bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the District Subordinate Civil Courts in Bombay. The Prisoners' Testimony Bill was referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report in six weeks. The Oudh Talookdars' Bill was passed with amendments after considerable discussion. At the conclusion of the business of the day, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, addressing His Excellency the President, stated that, before the Council rose, he felt it his duty to express the deep respect for the character of His Excellency, which was entertained by every member of the Council, and for the kindness and courtesy which His Excellency had always bestowed upon them. He had not had an opportunity of consulting with his colleagues before the meeting of the Council, but he was sure what they would all agree with him in that he had stated. His Excellency the Viceroy, in reply, expressed his gratitude for the consideration and courtesy which had suggested His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's remarks. He (His Excellency) left India with much regret, but he felt that breaking health and long services were beginning to tell upon him, and that it was time that he was relieved of the cares of State. The Council then adjourned until Friday, the 22nd instant.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE TALOOKDARS OF OUDH.

IN the course of last Monday's debate on the Oudh Talookdars' Bill, the Viceroy in Council (says the *Englishman*) made an announcement which can hardly fail to convince the Talookdars of the kindly feeling entertained towards them by the Government. An Act was lately passed in Bombay empowering the Government to make advances, under conditions, as to the management of their estates, to embarrassed proprietors to be repaid in instalments at a moderate rate of interest. The system has worked so well that the Viceroy has been encouraged to propose the extension of a similar privilege to the Talookdars of Oudh, many of whom would, it is believed, be glad to avail themselves of the assistance of the Government, to get rid of the difficulties in which, owing to the mutiny and other circumstances, they are involved, and which must greatly encumber them in the management of their estates. The Chief Commissioner will, in the first instance, be consulted; and should he concur in the expediency of the proposed plan, he will submit a list of the Talookdars desirous of benefiting by it, and a Bill will, probably, be introduced into Council, to empower the Government to carry it out. Indebted Talookdars will thus be relieved of a very heavy burthen of interest, as the rate, five or six per cent., the Government proposes to charge are much easier than those paid to native bankers.

ADDRESS OF THE INHABITANTS OF CALCUTTA TO SIR JOHN LAWRENCE.

THE following address, which we find in the Calcutta papers, was being signed for presentation to Sir John Lawrence :—

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR JOHN LAIRD MAIR LAWRENCE, BARONET, G.C.B., G.C.S.I.

YOUR EXCELLENCY.—In the prospect of your early departure from amongst us, we, the undersigned British, foreign and other inhabitants of the city of Calcutta, are unwilling that you should leave the shores of India without some expression on our part of the sentiments with which we contemplate your long and honourable career in this country.

We do not presume to revive those distinguished services to the State rendered by your Excellency, the high appreciation of which Her Majesty the Queen, and by the unanimous sense of your countrymen, was signalised in your elevation to the exalted office of Her Majesty's Viceroy and Governor-General of India. These services have already passed into the history of the British nation.

But we have seen during the past five years under your Excellency's direction, numerous and varied measures of administrative reform and peaceful progress carried out in all branches of the public service.

And we desire to place on record our admiration for the unswerving integrity, the sagacity, the firmness of the service of your country, has been distinguished throughout. In the consistent exercise of these qualities, your Excellency has been found, in times of war equal to the gravest emergencies of the State, in times of peace worthy of the entire confidence of your country.

Nor would we fail to declare our respect for the scrupulous impartiality and love of justice which have characterised your Excellency's sway, as chief ruler over an Empire embracing so many nationalities whose creeds so widely differ as those of British India. Unwearied in effort to legislate for the welfare of all, your Excellency has proved jealous in endeavouring to protect the just rights of each, while conciliatory and sagacious in the task of reconciling their conflicting interests and prejudices.

Your Excellency's accessibility to men of every rank active sympathy for suffering classes, and cordial support of every philanthropic and charitable object, evidenced by your unostentatious liberality, will long be missed by us after you have sailed from our shores.

In returning to your native land your Excellency will carry the reputation of a wise, conscientious, and upright ruler, whose public services have been worthy of the great nation which sent him forth to represent it in this country, and whose private worth adds lustre to the name of English gentleman.

Cordially desiring that your Excellency may be spared for many years to enjoy the honours which you have won, or may yet win, in your native country, and that your public services may be prolonged in various spheres of usefulness, we unite with the utmost respect in bidding your Excellency God-speed and farewell!

A CASE OF SUTTEE.

WE rarely hear of a *suttee* now in the Rajpootana States, but one is reported to have occurred in August last, in the Meywar territory. The victim was about sixty years of age, the widow of a Brahmin. All the parties concerned have been severely punished by the Maharana; the leading men of the village having been sentenced to seven years' rigorous imprisonment. The Governor-General, holding that the heavier punishments should be reserved for the most prominent actors, has suggested that some of the sentences might be reduced, but he has also expressed his gratification at the energy and promptitude displayed by the Maharana in dealing with the case.—*Indian Daily News.*

A NATIVE ATTORNEY SUSPENDED.

A RULE *nisi* issued on the 23rd of December last, on the report by Mr. Belchambers, the Taxing Officer of the Calcutta High Court, calling on Radhanauth Bose, an attorney of that Court, to show cause why he should not be struck off the roll of attornies for making fictitious and extortionate charges in a bill of costs against a client, or suffer other punishment, was, as we learn from the *Englishman*, argued at Calcutta last Monday before the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Macpherson, and Mr. Justice Norman by Mr. Woodroffe and Mr. Branson on behalf of Radhanauth Bose. After occupying the Court until half-past six o'clock, their Lordships sentenced the attorney to be suspended from practice for six months.

"LORD GEORGE GORDON."

A PARAGRAPH appeared in our columns some time ago about a man calling himself "Lord George Gordon" who was brought up before Mr. Showell, the Magistrate, on a charge of being drunk and incapable, and fine half a rupee. The *Delhi Gazette* had a note on the case, which has led the *Poona Observer* to publish an account of who this *soi disant* Lord really is. The *Observer* says—

"Mr. Emanuel Lord George Gordon is, we believe, a Madrassee Christian. Very possibly he may have a proportion of Eurasian blood in him. Anyway, he is what the religious organs at home would call a 'reverend gentleman of colour.' He has been tolerable educated, and, as many people know, has a powerful capacity for writing letters. He has been in the employ of a religious society, which is bent upon some scheme, based upon 'the lion lying down with the lamb' principle, whereby, apparently, everybody is to be changed so completely, that he will begin to love his neighbours, and to believe that other people's religious opinions may be as good as his own. Having, as we all know, met with conspicuous success at home, this unambitious society has extended its transactions to India; and Mr. Gordon has been employed as one of its apostles, with such success as may be. One of his three Christian names being Lord, it has, it appears, been made a feeble joke in these parts, for some years, to style him 'Lord George Gordon.'"

THE CALCUTTA DINNER TO SIR JOHN LAWRENCE.

THE dinner given by the Services to Sir John Lawrence on Monday last in the Town Hall of Calcutta appears to have gone off very successfully. As may be supposed there was a large attendance, not only of gentlemen belonging to the two services, but of their guests, and the presence of numerous ladies in the gallery of the hall gave the scene a gayer aspect than it would otherwise have possessed. Sir William Mansfield, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in India, presided on the occasion, and we note the names of the gentlemen who sat at the Viceroy's table :—

H. E. Sir John Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I.; H. E. Sir William Mansfield, K.C.B., G.C.S.I.; the Hon'ble Sir Donald McLeod, K.C.S.I., C.B.; Hon'ble Sir W. Muir, K.C.S.I.; Hon'ble W. Grey; the Lord Bishop of Calcutta; the Hon'ble G. Noble Taylor; Major General Sir Henry Durand, K.C.S.I., C.B.; the Hon'ble H. S. Maine; Sir Richard Temple, K.C.S.I.; the Marquis of Huntley; the Marquis of Blandford; the Earl of Gosford; the Hon'bles John Strachey, G. Loch, H. V. Bailey, J. P. Norman, Louis Jackson, J. P. Phear, Arthur Macpherson, Elphinstone Jackson, F. Glover, J. Hobhouse, J. Shaw Stewart, J. Cockerell, Gordon Forbes, D. Cowie, J. N. Bullen, S. Mansfield; Mr. Davies, Chief Commissioner of Oudh; Archbishop Steins; Major General Fordyce; Colonel Longden, C.B.; Colonel Norman, C.B.; Colonel Lawrence, C.B.; Dr. Muir, C.B.; Dr. Green; J. Cowie, Esq.; A. Money, Esq., C.B.; Dr. Fayrer, C.S.I.; Rev. J. Cave-Browne.

Sir John Lawrence arrived punctually at 8 o'clock, and was received by the Commander-in-Chief at the foot of the stair-case and conducted to the banquet-hall, which was tastefully decorated. After the customary loyal toasts, Sir William Mansfield rose to propose the toast of the evening—the health of Sir John Lawrence. He spoke as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,—When a large body of Englishmen assemble to bid farewell to one who has long worked and striven among them, I think we may say that it is a solemn and touching occasion. (Hear, hear.) But, gentlemen, when the object of the farewell is one who is raised greatly in position above us, who was sent to govern this land by the acclamation of the people of England—(loud applause)—when the object of the farewell is one who has held for five years in this country the questions of peace and war in the hollow of his hand—(applause)—when, gentlemen, upon every word of his—upon his every gesture has depended the welfare of millions, and the fate of individuals of all ranks, whether high or low—(applause)—I say, gentlemen, that the occasion assumes an importance and a significance which it is impossible for me to define, and which invests the object of our admiration and respect with a halo which is akin to that which invests majesty itself. (Loud applause.) Gentlemen, there are many of you in this assembly who have only known His Excellency Sir John Lawrence as Governor-General of India, but there are others amongst us who have been able to trace his glorious and magnificent career from a very much earlier period. (Applause.) I would ask you for a few moments to travel back with me for five-and-twenty years. It was my lot, as a Captain in the 53rd Foot—(A Voice—"Hear, hear,")—to march to Delhi in the commencement of 1846. On that occasion, although our arms had not received a check, yet such had been the sternness of the conflict, that the Commander-in-Chief of that day, Lord Gough, and Lord Hardinge, the Governor-General, felt that it was an occasion on which it was necessary to mass all the resources of the Indian Empire of those days, to withstand the invasion which for the moment successful across the frontiers of British India. (Applause.) Well, gentlemen, what was the rumour that pervaded the regimental column of the 53rd when it reached Delhi? The rumour was that the onward march of the regiment, and the means by which it should be pushed forward, rested with the civil authorities. And who were the civil authorities? The civil authorities were Mr. John Lawrence. (Tremendous applause.) The rumour then transpired among us that the Collector of Delhi was the trusted man of the Governor-General of India. (Applause.) In those days so subordinate was my position that I could only acknowledge the rumour. But, gentlemen, I have since learnt that the rumour was not only true, but that it was greatly less than the truth. (Applause.) Mr. John Lawrence, the Collector of Delhi, was the trusted correspondent of Lord Hardinge, and I may say that in the person of Mr. John Lawrence was found the base of the arrangements on which rested the success of the military operations. (Applause.) Well, gentlemen, the promise which was given in the early days, how has it been redeemed? Did we not see that Lord Hardinge summoned His Excellency across the Sutlej, to organize the new territory which was annexed, according to the treaty which was signed under the walls of Lahore—that subsequently His Excellency became one of the members of the Board of Administration—and after that, when the Punjab was annexed, that His Excellency was chosen as the first man to whom that great and difficult government could be entrusted? (Applause.) Government in these days may be believed by some to be a simple matter, though I do not think it is. But to all it must appear in days such as those when Sir John Lawrence assumed the Government of the Punjab a friend, Sir Donald Macleod, who is able to measure the difficulties which encompassed the Government of the Punjab when that country was annexed under the orders of Lord Dalhousie. (Loud applause.) We then reach a period in the career of my right honourable friend, which is not only chronicled in India, but which has found an echo in every country of the civilized world. (Applause.) I allude to the time when our own troops rose against us—when the energies of every Englishman in this country were taxed not only for victory, not only for self-defence, but for very life—the life, not only of themselves, but of their wives and of their countrywomen—(loud applause)—at a time when the late lamented Lord Canning braved the storm in this room of Calcutta. It was found that he had a lieutenant who was worthy to move in parallel lines with the Governor-General of India. The lieutenant then found was ready not merely to support the Government of his own province, but by the keen strategical sense which distinguished him as Governor of the Punjab, he seized that point in the defence of the Upper Provinces of India, which enabled us to recover the country. (Loud applause.) If there is one fact which has been more thoroughly established in the history of the last fifteen years than another it is this, that the fate of British India depended upon the recovery of Delhi and the recovery of Delhi depended upon the measure taken by His Excellency Sir John Lawrence. (Tremendous applause.) We have heard a great deal, gentlemen, about saviours of India. A great many people, some justly and some unjustly, have put forth great pretensions in that sense, but I again repeat that the real saving of India, as regards this generation, was effected by the measures taken by Sir John Lawrence for the relief of the city of Delhi. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Such a service might have been considered sufficient for one career. (Hear, hear.) But fortunately the people of England were not slow to discover that a man, who had thus been able to serve his own country in the government of a province was of all men the most fitted to assume the government of the Empire. (Loud applause.) Accordingly, some few years ago, by universal acclaim, Sir John Lawrence was chosen to proceed to this country as the Governor-General of India, and that is the character in which we have been lately in the habit of contemplating his career. Well, gentlemen, the ground that I now approach is one that I confess I do with the greatest possible confidence. If there is one government amongst all those which I have scanned in history which completely fulfils the idea on which it is founded, it is the government which has been conducted by His Excellency Sir John Lawrence. (Applause.) It has not been a government of war, it has not been a government characterised by those campaigns and battles which have shed a lustre over the career of previous Governors-General, but it has been a government which has achieved triumphs of far greater importance to mankind than those which have been generally achieved in the battle-field. (Applause.) If I might be allowed to characterize the policy of His Excellency as regards those who live on our frontiers, I would say that it is a policy combined of peace and strength—it is a policy which I may be allowed to characterize in the words of the old Roman—*Parcere subjectis, et debellare superbos.* (Hear, hear, and loud applause). If there is one thing which is more incumbent upon Englishmen in India than any other, it is to recollect that the superabundant energy which characterizes our Anglo-Saxon race may not only be instrumental of good, but may be also a machine for effecting undesirable results. Well, in the foreign policy which has characterized His Excellency's government, the great maxim which has always been held before us by Sir John Lawrence has been—"Let us spare the weak. Don't let us abuse our strength. Let us, when we have achieved advantage, know when to stop, and depend upon it that whilst we consult the dictates of humanity we shall also consult a true British policy." (Loud applause.) If, gentlemen, we proceed further, I would venture to say that if such a liberal policy as has characterized the Government of India, during the last five years, had been pursued in a country animated by free discussion, I venture to say that the reputation which would crowd upon my right hon'ble friend would be of a character that has been rarely witnessed. (Applause.) But the Government of India labours under very peculiar circumstances. I will not call them disadvantages, because they are to a certain degree inherent to the system which is necessary with regard to our position in this country. But it is a fact that whilst the Government of India is labouring with a might and an intensity which it is hardly possible to conceive, it is a fact—(hear, hear)—that their intentions, their honesty, and their motives are frequently misconstructed, and this not from any ill-will on the part of the public, but solely from want of the information which comes out in a country governed constitutionally. (Applause.) That, gentlemen, is an anomaly the results of which only those who administer the government of this country can understand. The people who administer the government of the country require encouragement like others—they require to be understood like people in lower positions; but as I have said before, we are subject to misconstruction, we are subject to be misunderstood, and we are obliged to be content to wait until you see the results in practical consequences. (Loud applause.) But as regards personal reputation, there is a great disadvantage flowing from this system, and it is this. Whereas in a country like England, and perhaps in other constitutionally governed countries of Europe, it does happen that as a man's actions are known from beginning to end, so his reputation grows and so every allowance is made for the difficulties of position—difficulties inherent to all human management and arrangement—and in that generous allowance those who administer the Government are prepared to find their reward. But here, so perfect is the machine of administration, at least so perfect has it been as I can testify from my own practical experience, so perfect has it been under the administration of His Excellency, that when the results follow you take them as if they had been accomplished without labour, and as if they had not been results of intensest thought, long preparation, and correspondence with distant governments; in fact, possessing every possible difficulty which it is in the nature of such business to possess. (Hear, hear, and applause.) I would now ask your attention more to the facts of progress which have distinguished His Excellency's government. Under the reign of Lord Dalhousie, a great system of railways was organized in this country. (Hear, hear.) That system has now approached completion. Under the orders of His Excellency Sir John Lawrence, another system of railways has now been prepared, which is not inferior in its extent to that which so much distinguished the administration of Lord Dalhousie. (Applause.) If I take the question of irrigation, I find that for many years—certainly during the last four years—there has been great effort on the part of the Government of India to forward the cause of irrigation. The difficulties were not in this country, but they were in another country; and as I have ventured to hint before, they were difficulties which did not cause blame to be attributed to any individual or to any functionary, but they were difficulties belonging to the system of Government, which depends principally upon correspondence between very distant authorities. Well, what was the last act in the last Council of His Excellency the Governor-General? The Director-General of Irrigation was able to report that during the last two years they had completed the preliminary steps of projects and plans, and the determination was then come to in His Excellency's Council, to address the Secretary of State, and to tell him that the time for real action had now come, and to ask for the money. (Applause.) Well, gentlemen, that request embodies a fact of very great importance and you will appreciate it when I tell you that the plans presented to us by the Director-General of Irrigation comprehended an expenditure, to be spread over ten or twelve years, of not less than thirty millions of money. (Applause.) It is a project of that magnitude—it is the impressing upon the Secretary of State for India the urgent necessity—a necessity which the events of this year have only still further urged upon us—I say, it is that necessity, and the impressing it upon the Secretary of State in England, which has been the last act of Sir John Lawrence in India. (Loud applause). When I first came up to take this command four years ago, I discovered that His Excellency the Governor-General, and my predecessor, Lord Strathnairn, had come to certain conclusions with regard to the building of barracks for European soldiers. I now have to remind you of a project sanctioned by His Excellency, which is only less in magnitude to the one I have just described. We hear a great deal, gentlemen, of what is required for the European soldier. There is no one who is more willing to allow these requirements than myself; but, gentlemen, when I tell you that the decision arrived at by His Excellency the Governor-General was to spend not less than eleven millions upon their barracks, it shows at least how he had conceived his duty towards the army of England called to serve in this country. (Loud applause.) I venture to say, gentlemen, I have given but a few instances of the administration, I would mention that as we have seen this great and liberal progress established in the Department of Public Works, so the same thing may be said of the other great departments of Government. Thus, if we take education. At no former time in the history of India has such progress been made in the vernacular education of the people. (Applause.) Not content with a mere vernacular education of the lower classes, we saw but a few months ago a system of scholarships established by which those of the higher classes may be attracted to an education in England, and thereby render themselves fitting agents for administration in India. (Applause.) That design, which first occurred to His Excellency at the commencement of this year, is now approaching completion, and it has received the entire assent of the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State. (Applause.) There was another measure of some two years ago, which, I confess, to me assumed a greater importance than any which I have yet alluded to. I advert to the great improvement which was introduced in the mofussil courts of justice, by raising the pay of the subordinate ministers of justice. (Applause.) It is well known to everybody in this room that those mofussil courts were not what they should be, because of the miserable allowances on which the people existed. (Hear, hear.) To a practical man like His Excellency, it occurred that there was but one mode of raising the position of these courts, and that was to raise the status of the people who administered justice in them. (Applause.) There is one more department to which I would advert, and that is to the army. Probably there is no one in this room who knows so much of the details of the service as I do. (Applause.) But I will assert that if I have ever been at a loss with regard to what was best to be done for the interests of the army, European and native, my first impulse was to seek the advice of one who in these matters has had at least as great an experience as myself. (Loud applause.) I venture to say, in the presence of the numerous military officers sitting in this room, that the army of India was never in a higher state of efficiency than it is at this moment. (Applause.) But I will tell them something more. (That efficiency is greatly owing to His Excellency the Governor-General. (Applause.) Since I have had the honour of sitting in Council with His Excellency, there is no class in the military service which has not had its lot slightly ameliorated, some more and some less. Whether I look to the position of the officers, to the position of the native soldiery, to the wives of the European soldiers—there is no one class who is not indebted to His Excellency [illegible] (Loud applause.) I have great hopes that they are [illegible] these facts because I believe that question of the comfort of the soldier; their efficiency has been greatly added to. The mobility of the troops is now equal to that of any army in Europe; we have seen that in the petty campaigns that have taken place upon our various frontiers. Very recently a decision was come to under His Excellency's order to recommend to the Secretary of State that the armament of native troops should be put upon a better basis than it is. (Applause.) Well, gentlemen, I have striven feebly to express upon points the great obligations which the services and the establishments under the Government owe to His Excellency; but there is a greater behind—(applause)—and that is, if there ever was one who came to this country, who appreciated his duty as a Christian Governor to his people, true to his charge, who was ever ready to stand between them and the oppressor, I venture to say that man is Sir John Lawrence. (Loud and continued applause.) Gentlemen of the services, I think I need say nothing more. In the career of His Excellency you have an illustration before you which is not only precious at the present time, but which will go down in history hereafter. (Applause.) I say, gentlemen, of the united services of India, cherish that example, pass it down as a heritage to your families, and be proud of it for ever after. (Loud applause.) Gentlemen, I beg to propose the health—with all due honors—of His Excellency Sir John Lawrence.

At the conclusion of the chairman's eloquent speech, the assembly rose *en masse*, and made the old hall ring with a series of hearty cheers such as had seldom been heard in the same building. The cheering lasted several minutes.

Sir John Lawrence then rose, and said :—

SIR WILLIAM MANSFIELD AND GENTLEMEN,—I thank you much for the signal honour which you have conferred on me this day. I can assure you that I feel it most deeply. It is now nearly thirty-nine years since I first arrived in India as a young civilian; and now I am about to leave it, having attained to the highest honour which can fall to the lot of a subject, in being the Viceroy of Her Majesty the Gracious Queen of England in this land. (Hear, hear.) For years I have laboured unceasingly at my duty. My youth, my manhood, my riper years have been passed in the service of the State. During the last twenty-three years more particularly, I have filled some of the most difficult and, therefore, some of the most honourable posts in the administration and government of this country. (Applause.) In the early days of my service in India, I lived much among the people with whom my lot was cast. I won their confidence, and obtained their good-will. I learnt to understand their character, and succeeded in gaining an influence over their minds. During the terrible crisis of 1857, I profited by these advantages, and was able to decide promptly as to the best course to pursue, as one difficulty followed another. (Hear, hear.) I was fortunate enough to find the chiefs and people of a great and warlike province willingly rally round me and trust to my guidance. They did right loyal service. I shall always feel a deep and grateful interest in their welfare. I owe much to them. Indeed, I owe everything to them, and to my brethren of the different services in India. But why should I confine my acknowledgments in any way? To what class indeed am I not indebted? I owe much to all my countrymen in India. (Loud applause.) And now I stand here this day having, by God's help, surmounted the difficulties, and the accidents, incidental to a long and varied career in a foreign land. About to lay down with satisfaction and thankfulness the great office of Viceroy of India, I leave it with confidence to impartial contemporaries, and to posterity, to decide how the authority which has been entrusted to me has been exercised. (Tremendous applause.) I do not shrink from such an examination. But whatever may be the general opinion of my conduct, whatever may be my future fate, I shall always look back with gratitude and affection to many of those with whom I have been connected, to some of whom I have been greatly indebted for their able counsel, and their interested assistance and support. And now I avail myself of this opportunity to entreat my countrymen in India of all classes to do their utmost in cultivating friendly and cordial relations with the people among whom they dwell. The latter will well repay our sympathy and good will. Without the aid of the people, we could never have weathered the storm of 1857. (Applause.) However great, however heroic the exertions of our countrymen in these evil days, they were overmatched in the struggle; and never could have maintained themselves against the overwhelming odds to which they were opposed, had they not been zealously aided by the efforts of loyal natives. It is no exaggeration to say that thousands of native soldiers fought and suffered for us in those terrible times. From the Punjab alone I estimate that from first to last, and fewer than eighty thousand native soldiers were engaged on our side during the mutiny. In the siege and storm of Delhi, in particular, it is difficult to say how great was the benefit we derived from such services. And though at first sight, and in quite times, the advantages of a conciliatory and kindly bearing towards the natives of this country may not be so apparent as in times of danger, they are relatively just as important, for no business, whether of a private or public character, can thoroughly prosper unless the natives of the country as largely employed in it. (Loud applause.)

And now I will say a few words regarding some of the most important matters connected with the administration, since I became Governor-General of India. I have been taunted with maintaining a policy of inaction and sapineness, and with indifference to the progress of events in Central Asia. I emphatically deny the allegation. (Applause.) I have very carefully watched all that has gone on in these distant countries. It is true that I have resolutely set my face against any proposal which, in my judgment, appeared to have a tendency to draw the Government of India into active interference in the affairs of Central Asia. I feel sure that it will prove, unless circumstances change entirely, a cardinal error, if we take such step. Such interference must sooner or later involve us in hostilities there, either with the people, or with their enemies, probably with both. Our true policy is to avoid such complications; to consolidate our power in India; to give to its people the best government we can; to organize our administration in every department on a system which will combine economy with efficiency; and so to make our Government strong and respected in our own vast territories. (Hear, hear, and loud applause.) On the western frontier we should be specially strong and ready; but without interfering in the internal concerns of the adjacent hill tribes, except when it becomes necessary to do so, in order to maintain peace and security. Active interference in the complications of Central Asia would almost certainly lead to war, the end of which no one could foresee and which would involve India in heavy debt or necessitate the imposition of additional taxation to the impoverishment of the country, and to the unpopularity of our rule. On the other hand, by standing fast, as long as may be possible on our own border, we can be ready to meet invaders with advantage. Invasion may never come, but if it do come, it should find us well prepared to repel it. If we sent agents into remote countries where the government is rude, and the people bigoted and lawless, we subject them to illtreatment and insult, which we must be prepared to punish by force of arms. I know how strong and how admirable is the spirit of enterprise and devotion which would prompt hundreds of my countrymen cheerful to incur such risks; but we must look to the national consequences that may result; and I for one cannot say that they justify sanction to such undertakings. (Loud applause.)

It has been my earnest desire to maintain peace in India, and I am happy to think that peace has generally reigned during my administration. But I have not hesitated to engage in war when the honour of the State, or the security of the country, clearly demanded such a course. (Applause.) We have had two petty wars of this character. In the Bhootan campaign the enemy was contemptible, but the climate of the low grounds adjacent to the hills was deadly. The mountains covered with forest and dense underwood, were most difficult of access to our troops acting in sufficient numbers. The object aimed at was to punish the enemy, and not to make a conquest of Bhootan. That could have been done it is true, but it would have involved the construction of roads, and a large expenditure of blood and treasure. Under such circumstances, would it not have been worse than folly to have continued the war, when the enemy had been punished, and was desirous of peace? (Applause.) The second affair was the late expedition beyond the Huzara Frontier, with the result of which certain critics profess to be dissatisfied, because in their opinion the enemy was not adequately punished; and because the expedition was organised on a somewhat large scale. The force employed was what was asked for by the General Officer appointed to the command—an officer of ability, and large experience in hill warfare; and his recommendations were supported by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. This expedition was brought to a rapid and successful conclusion—and it is generally predicted by those who best know the circumstances of the Frontier, soldiers and civilians, that it will have a lasting good effect on the offending tribes. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

Our relations with the Princes and Chiefs of India, as well as of those beyond the Frontier, with whom the British Government have treaties, have been throughout, and now continue, on a very satisfactory footing. Great care is taken in respect to those Chiefs who are politically dependent to stimulate them, where it may be found necessary, to a wise administration of their territories, and a considerable improvement for the most part is apparent among them.

In respect to many Chiefs, the Government have only had to express satisfaction and approbation. The states of Chiefs who are minors are carefully managed by our own officers, until these young princes shall arrive at years of discretion; and every effort is made when practicable, to give them an education such as will fit them for the duties they owe to their subject.

It is a source of much satisfaction to me to feel that the important questions, connected with the tenures of land in Oude and the Punjab, have been brought to a settlement. I rejoice, too, that the Government have at length succeeded in obtaining a recognition of the vital importance of an extended system of irrigation for India. I have myself for long been of opinion that no public works could be of so great importance to the country. I will not here dwell on other matters of detail, such as the improvement of the administration of civil and criminal justice, the education of the people, the increased efficiency of telegraphic and postal arrangements—all conducing to the good government of the country. I hope I may say with truth that there is no department of the State in which some progress has not been made. (Applause.) The finances have been maintained on a sound and satisfactory basis, without any considerable additional taxation. Indeed, but for the excessive rise of prices throughout India, no increase of taxation would have been required.

I think that I may fairly say that I shall have the good fortune to make over the Government of India to my successor in a prosperous and satisfactory condition. But for the sad prospect caused by the drought in Upper and Central India, that condition would be quite satisfactory. The great want now felt is the scarcity of forage for cattle, inducing enormous mortality. There is still, however, it is believed, food for man, and in British territory we have full two millions of acres of land irrigated from canals, besides a good breadth of cultivation dependent on the banks [illegible] has escaped the drought. Some rain also has lately fallen in Northern India, and there is still time for more to fall, so as to benefit the spring crops. May God in His mercy send us timely showers! In the meantime the Government of India has

HEADS OF ENGLISH NEWS.

ALL the Ministerial re-elections have been effected without opposition, and Parliament will meet for business on February 16.

The differences between Turkey and Greece (says the *Home News*) give little promise of adjustment, but a Conference has been proposed in the hope of composing them. The blockade of Syra by Hobart Pasha is not yet raised.

The full text of the address of the President of the United States has been received. It is declared to be one of the most astounding documents ever issued as a State paper. The reading in the Senate was abruptly stopped by an adjournment.

Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, Governor of Bombay, is gazetted an extra Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India.* The names of twenty new Companions of the Order of the Star of India are announced.

The office of consul at Massowah has been suppressed, and Consul Cameron is to receive a pension of 350*l.* a year.

The Spanish elections appear to be proceeding without disturbance, though much excitement prevails. No candidate has yet been named for the throne.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council have decided against the ritualists in the St. Alban's case, and condemned Mr. Mackonochie in all the costs. By this decision the ritualists are placed in a situation of difficulty as to their future course.

The East Indian Railway Company propose to issue £1,000,000 additional capital in the early part of the new year.

The Lord Mayor has granted a summons against six of the directors of Overend, Gurney, and Co., Limited, to answer a charge of fraudulent conspiracy, by a shareholder. The hearing is fixed for Jan 1.

The litigation which has prevented a final division of the assets of the Commercial Bank Corportation of India and the East has ended.

The legacies left by the late Baron James de Rothschild amount to 44,000,000*l.*

A resolution has been come to in Lancashire to work half time in the cotton mills. This decision is occasioned by the sad state of the market.

Mr. Drax, the Conservative candidate, has been returned for Wareham, in the place of the late Captain Calcraft.

Telegrams have been received announcing the Prince of Wales's arrival at the Stockholm, and return to Denmark.

Another colliery explosion has occurred near Wigan, by which seven lives were lost; and an explosion has occurred at Hall's gunpowder works near Faversham.

The action brought by Mr. Campbell against Mustapha Fazil Pacha, the Egyptian Viceroy's brother, to recover £30,000, has been commenced, and adjourned till February.

Earl Spencer has been sworn in as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

Sir G. M. Giffard has been appointed one of the Lords Justices, and Mr. W. M. James a Vice-Chancellor.

Admiral Grey has revived the question of surrendering Gibraltar to Spain, but the proposition has failed to elicit the slightest support.

Captain Wilmshurst, late Governor of Ascension, is to be tried by court-martial for unbecoming conduct in respect to the wreck of the *Bremensis*, a cotton-laden ship from Bombay.

A destructive storm has occurred in Caithness, and at Wick the harbour works are destroyed. Many parts of the North Riding are now flooded.

The dates for the trials of several election petitions have been fixed by the judges. The Warrington case stands first in order.

The underground railway has been opened to Westminster bridge.

The increase of pauperism in London is claiming especial attention.

It has been notified that the Secretary of State for India in Council does not intend to draw any more bills on India during the remainder of the present official year—that is, till after March 31 next.

The following names appear in the obituary of the week:—

In Her Majesty's Indian Army: Colonel George Wright, Retired List, Madras Army—Lieut.-Colonel Henry Morland, Retired List, Madras Army.

Miscellaneous: Mr. Robert Porrett, F.R.S.—The Rev. Canon James—Sir Thomas Gresley, Bart.—Dr. Edwards, F.R.C.P.—Lady Boultbee—Mr. James Disraeli—Lady Malet—Lord Belhaven—Major-General Sir Herbert B. Edwardes, K.C.B. and K.C.S.I.—Mr. William Carleton.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

WAR OFFICE, PALL MALL, 24TH DECEMBER, 1868.

Royal Regiment of Artillery—Major-General Thomas Peters Fludo to be Colonel-Commandant, vice Field-Marshal Sir Hew Dalrymple Ross, G.C.B., deceased. Dated 11th December, 1868.

Secon l Captain High Ingram Everard Ford to be Adjutant, vice Second Captain A. Dixon, who resigns the Adjutantcy only. Dated 23rd December, 1868.

Corps of Royal Engineers—Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel Spencer Westmacott to be Colonel, vice W. C. Staoe, deceased. Dated 14th December, 1868.

Captain and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Whitworth Porter, from the Supernumerary List, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Brevet-Colonel Westmacott. Dated 14th December, 1868.

BREVET.

In consequence of the promotion of Colonel Franck-land Royal Artillery, to be Major-General, which appears in the Gazette of the 15th December, 1868, the undermentioned officer who retired on full-pay of the Artillery as Lieutenant-Colonel, is promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonel, 1st November, 1854, to be Major-General, viz:—

Colonel George Sandham. Dated 10th November, 1868.

Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Reginald Courtenay, (late Bengal) Artillery, having completed the qualifying period of service in his present rank, to be Colonel, under the provisions of the Royal Warrant of 3rd February, 1866. Dated 11th November, 1868.

MR. REVERDY JOHNSON AND MR. JOHN LAIRD.

MR. JOHN LAIRD M.P., has obtained Mr. Reverdy Johnson's permission to publish some correspondence which took place between them a couple of months ago, to exonerate Mr. Johnson from the imputation that he sought the acquaintance of such an enemy of the North as Mr. Laird were, in the first instance, to Mr. Johnson, when he heard that the Minister was to visit Liverpool, to say that it would afford him great pleasure to receive Mr. Johnson, but that if Mr. Johnson thought the acceptance of the invitation in any way compromise him with his countrymen he was by all means to decline it. Mr. Johnson wrote a very frank note in reply, in the course of which he said:—"My mission to England is not to do or refrain from doing anything which may serve to promote or continue any ill-feeling between any portion of her Majesty's subjects and the citizens of the United States; but, on the contrary, to endeavour by all proper means to extinguish such feeling. Notwithstanding, therefore, that you sympathize with my Southern brethren during our late civil war, I shall have much pleasure in making your personal acquaintance, and in hearing from yourself that now, the war being over, you sincerely wish to see a lasting peace between our two countries."

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ABYSSINIAN CAPTIVES.

THE English papers have been supplied by the Foreign Office with copies of the report made by Mr. Rassam respecting his mission to Abyssinia, and the report of Consul Cameron, describing the circumstances of his imprisonment. To the former is appended the following despatch from Lord Stanley:—

Foreign Office, December 5, 1868.

SIR,—I have directed a letter to be addressed to you in regard to your financial arrangements during your mission to Abyssinia, and as I must now hold your accounts to be virtually closed, beyond such information as you may still be able to afford, it is my duty to signify to you that I shall no longer decline you from your duties under the Indian Government. I cannot, however, close my correspondence with you without expressing the high sense entertained by Her Majesty's Government of your conduct during the difficult and arduous period of your employment under this office. You appear to have acted for the best, and your prudence, discretion, and good management seem to have tended greatly to preserve the lives, and thus to secure the ultimate release of the captives. Your companions Dr. Blanc and Lieutenant Prideaux, are also entitled to the thanks of Her Majesty's Government, which I request you to convey to them, for the uniform and zealous support which they gave to you in very trying times. The sufferings which you all underwent have been deeply deplored by Her Majesty's Government, and as some compensation therefor, as well as a testimony of appreciation of good service, they have resolved to present a sum of 5,000*l.* to yourself, and sums of 2,000*l.* each to Dr. Blanc and Lieutenant Prideaux.

(Signed) STANLEY.

The following letter has also been addressed by Lord Stanley to Consul Cameron:—

Foreign Office, Dec. 7, 1868.

SIR,—Ishave to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have decided to suppress the appointment held by you of Her Majesty's Consul at Massowah, and that in the consideration of the sufferings which you have undergone during your captivity in Abyssinia, and of your services being now no longer required, the Lords of the Treasury have been pleased to sanction the grant to you of a special pension at the rate of 350*l.* a year to commence from this day.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) STANLEY.

MADAME RACHEL.—At Judges' Chambers on December 22, Mdme. Rachel was brought up in custody of the warders of Millbank prison to enter into her recognisance to abide by the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench on the hearing of the writ of error to quash the conviction and sentence of five years' penal servitude pronounced upon her for a misdemeanour. The defendant, who was accompanied by her daughter, appeared in a bad state of health and scarcely able to walk. Mr. Thornton took her recognisance in a sum of £1,000, and the release issued from the Crown-office. The defendant attended in pursuance of a writ of habeas corpus, and the sureties signed heir recognisance. Madame is now at liberty.

SIR CULLING EARDLEY.—Sir Culling Eardley has been granted a free pardon, provided that he absents himself from England until the period of his sentence shall have expired. Sir Culling has, therefore, left for Madeira. It will be remembered that Sir Culling Eardley was sentenced to imprisonment in January last for bigamy. The reason for his release is stated to be that further confinement would result in his death, his health having already greatly suffered.

THE TURKISH ULTIMATUM.

THE following are the demands that were made in the ultimatum delivered on the 10th instant by the Turkish Minister at Athens, Photiades Bey, to the Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs:—1. That the existing bands of volunteers be broken up, and the formation of new ones be prohibited. 2. That the Cretan fugitives be permitted to return home, and protected, if necessary, against the coercion of the Greek Committees, who hinder their return. 3. That those who have hitherto prevented the Cretan fugitives from returning home, using force against them as well as against the Turkish officers commissioned to superintend their re-embarkation, be punished, and that the families of those murdered on these occasions be indemnified. 4. That the Greek harbours be closed to the blockade runners, and that the ships be disarmed before leaving port. 5. That Greece engage to pursue a policy in conformity with the law of nations and special treaties.

THE STATE OF GREECE.

ATHENS, DEC. 17.

THE Greeks are not drifting into a war, they are boldly throwing down the gauntlet to Turkey. The rupture has been accomplished by acts of hostility, even before the diplomatic relations of the two Governments have been broken off by the departure of the Ministers from Athens and Constantinople. The blockade-runner *Enosis*, with her Armstrong guns mounted, left Syra for her grand expedition the week before last. Having transported 900 of the troops fitted out for the invasion of Crete by the patriots at Athens, from Maina to Kimolos, a small island to the north of Candia, 600 of these troops were landed with their arms, ammunition, and provisions for five days, at a bay near Bali, in the mountains between Rethymnos and Candia, on Sunday evening, December 6. On the following Thursday, the remaining 300, commanded by D. Petropoulakes, a Colonel in the Greek army, with two rifled guns and ammunition were carried from Kimolos to Prassonesi, near the south-eastern cape of Crete. And on Saturday, December 12, a large quantity of ammunition was landed at Psarephorada further west in the province of Rhizokastron. Extraordinary exertions have been made and money has been employed, and apparently very injudiciously lavished, to afford a pretext for asserting that the insurrection has again become general.

Last Monday, the 14th, the *Enosis* returned to Syra, having succeeded in all her operations with great skill and daring. Her entrance into port was attended by an engagement with two Turkish ships, of which the captain gives the following report. As he approached Syra, at a distance of half a mile from land, he was pursued by a frigate bearing the flag of an Ottoman Admiral, attended by the corvette, *Izzedin*, and was fired at with heavy guns, revolvers, and muskets, for the pursuing ships came, he says, within musket shot. The enthusiasm of the crew of the *Enosis* was worthy of the patriotism of Greece. They returned the fire to the Turks with great effect. One shot from their well-pointed guns disabled the corvette by striking a paddle-wheel and another raked the flag-ship from bow to stern.

Shortly after the *Enosis* was anchored in the recess of the port the Ottoman frigate cast anchor at the mouth. The frigate bore the flag of the Hon. Captain Hobart, R.N., who has taken service with the Turks, as Colonel Petropoulakes has taken service with the Cretan Committee. Captain Hobart has received the rank of Vice-Admiral, and assumed the command of the Ottoman squadron blockading the insurgents in Crete. Hobart Pasha sent a communication to the monarch (prefect) of Syra, which states the facts of the engagement somewhat differently from the report of the captain of the *Enosis*. He informs the monarch that about 8 A.M. he observed the *Enosis*, which, after having been publicly fitted out with Armstrong guns in the port of Syra, was, he believed, returning from landing a large body of armed Greeks to assist the insurrection in Crete. When he was six miles distant from land he ordered the *Izzedin* to fire a gun without shot as an order to the *Enosis* to bring to, but at the first blank fire of the *Izzedin* the *Enosis* replied with a shotted gun. The ball struck the Admiral's ship and shattered two boats. The *Izzedin* then fired shotted guns, and pursued the *Enosis* to within four miles of the port. The flagship followed, anchored, and the Admiral sent a letter to the monarch demanding that the Enosis should be sequestered as a pirate and her process made, and that the monarch should act energetically and without delay. Hobart Pasha observes that the *Enosis* has, during the last two years, while engaged in blockade-running, repeatedly violated the law of nations, and is now caught in an act of piracy which calls for legal punishment. He concludes by demanding a strict judicial investigation in the presence of the European consuls at Syra.

The monarch and the consuls immediately sent off an express steamer to Athens for instructions, and in the meantime the Ottoman Vice-Admiral remains anchored in the mouth of the port, to prevent the armed blockade-runners, *Lusia* and *Goat*, from escaping to sea. At Athens King George had already accepted the alternative of a rupture as unavoidable.

During the last week several Cabinet councils were held in presence of the King, and it was decided to give a negative answer to all the demands of the Ottoman Government even after the modifications they had received in consequence of the mediation of Russia, France, and England. Yesterday the Ministers of Foreign Affairs announced this decision in the Chamber of Deputies, for it would be impossible to finish printing all the documents sooner. He read the answer of the Greek Government to the Turkish demands and the ultimatum of the Porte to the House. He also informed the Deputies that the Ambassadors of Russia, France, and England at Constantinople supported the Turkish pretensions that the Greek Government ought to put a stop to open recruiting for the purpose of invading provinces of the Ottoman Empire, that it ought to disarm the blockade-runners fitted out in the port of Syra, and protect the Cretan refugees who desired to return home from the mobs that opposed their embarkation. He stated that the Ministers of England, France, and Russia at Athens, in consequence of the instructions they had received, had united in endeavouring to persuade the King's Government to make such concessions to the Porte as would prevent a rupture. But the Minister of Foreign Affairs boasted that he had replied to the protesting Powers in the same terms of decided refusal as in his written answer to the Ottoman Minister. Other friendly Powers had given their advice that a rupture could and ought to be avoided, but the answer of the Government was that nothing could be yielded to a demand of Turkey without dishonour to Greece. The nation would be degraded by any concession to a Turkish ultimatum. The Minister concluded his speech by a proclamation adjuring Greeks to unite firmly in the present critical position of their national affairs in order to bring the contest with the Ottaman Empire to a victorious end. Most of the members evidently believe that a rupture with Turkey will, on the whole, be rather beneficial to Greece than otherwise. It will bring the Cretan difficulty to a termination, and, they believe, will hasten the annexation of the island to the Hellenic kingdom. The enthusiasm of the people is awakened, and the smothered hatred of the Orthodox to the Mussulmans is bursting forth vigorously.

A few weeks will show whether the closing of the Turkish ports to Greek commerce, the transference of the trade of the Levant to Austrian and Italian flags, and the expulsion of Greek subjects from Turkey will have any considerable effect in allaying the present feelings of hostility and hopes of conquest. The agitators and aggressive party assert confidently that their revolutionary measures are thoroughly prepared, and that before any serious inconvenience will be felt by the commercial classes, Thessaly and Epirus will be conquered, and revolutions will break out among the Greek population in every European province of the Ottoman Empire.

On receiving a negative answer to his demands, Photiades Bey went down to the Piræus, and he embarks for Constantinople to-day in the French mail steamer. He is a Greek subject of the Sultan, and a man of undoubted orthodoxy and sound judgment, talents, knowledge of all classes in the East, love of numismatics, and archæological taste, will make him long regretted by many Greeks at Athens who think that literature and peaceful progress would advance national greatness more efficaciously than political agitation and revolutionary outbreaks.

A short time will enable Europe to measure the real power of Hellenism, of which so much has been said recently; and it will now be seen how far Orthodoxy in the Ottoman Empire can be employed by the Greeks of the Hellenic kingdom as an engine for accomplishing their great idea of a resuscitated Byzantine Empire. The Ministry of M. Bulagres have placed a good deal on the cast, and Greece must stand the hazard of the die. The moment has now arrived for the Greeks living in wealth and luxury out of Greece, who have been long abetting revolutionary schemes of annexation by paltry subscriptions to central committees, to make some contributions worthy of true patriotism in order to support the King of the Hellenes through the difficulties into which they have done much to lead him.—*The Times, Dec.* 25.

ACCREDITED TO HEAVEN.—The last letter penned by Berryer cannot be read with unmitigated satisfaction by the Emperor. It has a curious air about it. Imagine an Englishman on his death bed saying he was going to heaven on a special political mission, and proclaiming that *in order to* be properly accredited for this purpose he had accepted the consolations of the Church. Here are the words, and let our readers judge if we have misinterpreted their meaning—"I bear these wishes to heaven for your Majesty her Majesty the Queen, and our dear France *That they may be less unworthy to be heard by God*, I quit life armed with all the succours of our holy religion" —*London Review.*

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Recognised by the International Convention of 30th April 1862, and by Act No. VIII. of 1864, of the Legislative Council of India, and by amended Act of 1867.

Subscribed Capital	£3,200,000
Paid up Capital	2,400,000
Being Called up	800,000
Reserve Fund	800,000

HEAD OFFICE—Paris.
AGENCIES AT
Bombay, London, Calcutta, Hongkong, Shanghai, Bourbon, Saigon
SUB-AGENCY.—Yokohama.
CORRESPONDENTS.
Madras, Pondicherry, Singapore, Java, Mauritius, Egypt.
LONDON BANKERS.
The Union Bank of London, and Messrs. C. J. Hambro and Son.
AGENTS IN SCOTLAND.—National Bank of Scotland.

The Bank grants Drafts and Letters of Credit, and purchases and collects Bills, on the above places, and on all the principal Cities and Towns on the Continent of Europe.

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These will be made up to the 30th June and 31st of December in each year, and if the balance shall not at any time during the half year have been below Rs. 1,000, interest at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum will be allowed on the minimum monthly balances. No interest will be allowed above one lac.

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9, Rampart Row, Bombay, 16th October 1868.

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In 100,000 Shares of £10 each.

HEAD OFFICE—Nicholas Lane, Lombard Street. London, E.C.

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On demand		1/11¼	,,
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		3 per cent. per ann.
Do.	6	do. 4
Do.	12	do. 5
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